Smart Access Article Abstracts

		Page	Article Type

2006-04 Gold Collection

Garry Robinson **Flexible normalization and denormalization: Case1** 1 Article

Normalizing your data design is an essential part of creating a database that can be easily updated. However Garry Robinson found it necessary to dernormalize his data to provide the users with a user interface that met their needs

Helen Feddema **Flexible normalization and denormalization: Case 2** 6 Article

Helen Feddema approaches the same problem as Garry, but this time manages her data to provide the users with the output that met their needs.

Doug Steele **Surf's up! Parsing web data** 8 Article

This month, Doug gets some questions that send him back to an earlier topic: linking your access application into data on the internet.

2006-03 Gold Collection

Bogdan Zamfir **Data export made easy** 1 Article

Bogdan Zamfir provides a utility that handles exporting the data behind any currently active access object to any of the access-supported formats. Your users should find just about every option they need in this portable utility.

Doug Steele **Let me check my list…** 7 Article

This month, Doug Steels looks at various ways of using the ListBox control.

2006-02 Gold Collection

Mike Toole **From Zoom Box to Custom Dialog** 1 Article

For some applications you just can't get enough screen real-estate, especially when you have fields that display a large amount of text. Mike Toole describes an alternative to the Zoom box that not only looks and works better but avoids the Zoom box's spurious updates. His design can be used for creating any sophisticated
custom dialog.

Christopher R. Weber **Managing Margins** 6 Article

This month, Chris Weber talks about four TextBox and label formatting properties that were introduced in Access 2000 and some unexpected side effects of using them.

Doug Steele **Have Some Control!** 8 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele gathers together a number of questions about using the ComboBox control. My ComboBox displays multiple fields in it when I've got it dropped down, but once I select a value, it only displays a single field. Is there any way I can see the other fields once I've made a selection?

2006-01 Gold Collection

Peter Vogel **Simplifying Complex SQL** 1 Article

Access developers often find SQL bewildering: While simple things are easy in SQL, as you move up to more complicated problems, SQL statements can quickly become intimidating. Peter Vogel looks at some strategies for solving tough problems with SQL.

Christopher R. Weber **Zoom, Zoom, Zoom** 6 Article

Chris Weber shows you how to let your users to zoom in and out of datasheet subforms.

Doug Steele **Talk to Me…** 8 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at how you can integrate SAPI (the Speech Application Programming Interface) into your applications.

		Page	Article Type

2005-12 Gold Collection

Garry Robinson **A classy interface for Microsoft excel** 1 Article

In this article, Garry Robinson shows you how to use a class to manipulate Microsoft excel. His class provides a software layer that hides the complexity of dealing with excel through VBA. You'll see how to use Garry's class to push single pieces of data into excel, how to transfer data from queries into excel, and how to let users navigate between results using bookmarks.

Glenn Lloyd **Data modelling for the access newcomer, part 2** 6 Article

Last month Glenn Lloyd started outlining his approach to data modelling. This month he finishes his discussion of the rules that ensure that your database will actually work after you've built it.

Doug Steele **Want machine information? What marvellous insights!** 9 Access Answers

This month Doug Steele looks at how to tap into the wealth of information available through windows management instrumentation (WMI), a component of the Microsoft windows operating system.

2005-11 Gold Collection

Glenn Lloyd **Data modelling for the access newcomer, Part 1** 1 Article

Thorough, thoughtful, and accurate data modelling should be the starting point of detailed database design. But a surprising number of developers have little or no understanding of data modelling and shy away from what looks like a non-profitable and time-consuming task. Glenn Lloyd looks at the typical design pitfalls that trap access beginners and shows the basic techniques that ensure success.

Russell Sinclair **Simplifying queries** 5 Article

Rather than define every query that your users might require, why not let your users make up their queries as they need them -- Provided that they are not going to be overwhelmed by the options available to them. Russell Sinclair discusses how to create a simplified query interface for access users.

Doug Steele **All in the family** 8 Access Answers

This month Doug Steele looks at how to handle tables where multiple types of data are in the same table.

2005-10 Gold Collection

Garry Robinson **Extracting Your Access Configuration** 1 Article

Garry Robinson shows you how to extract important information about your Access installation (and the version of Access that your application is running under).

Peter Vogel **Precision Matters** 2 Editorial

Two of this month's articles deal with something that, I have to admit, I don't give attention to: Precision. In this editorial, Peter discusses this issue.

John Williams **Playing Tag with Validation** 7 Article

In this article, John Williams shows how to use the Tag property of a calculated control to help validate its contents.

Christopher R. Weber **When DateAdd Doesn't** 10 Article

Chris Weber shows you how DateAdd can give you results that you may not be expecting—and then provides the routine that will give you what you want. Along the way he introduces you to the kind of problems that crop up when you do math with the Double datatype.

Doug Steele **An Average Column: I Mean, What Mode is Your Median?** 14 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele follows up on an earlier article by Chris Weber to look at different ways to calculate "measures of central tendency": mean, median, and mode.

2005-09 Gold Collection

Andrew Wrigley **Breadcrumbs, or How I Learned to Love the Switchboard** 1 Article

Andrew Wrigley shows how to design a "Breadcrumb" control that will enhance your users' experience whenever they need to navigate a hierarchical structure (and bitterly regrets his lack of documentation...).

Garry Robinson **Logging Access Startup Details and Version Control** 8 Article

Often, in order to get the best performance from your application (or determine what's going wrong with it), you have to know what your application is really doing. That's the role of logging: providing a trail of what was going on with your application. Garry Robinson shows you how to keep track of some key information about your Access database.

Glenn Lloyd **Displaying Hierarchical Data in a TreeView** 13 Article

Thanks to the way that Windows Explorer handles folders and subfolders, your users are used to being able to work with hierarchical data using a TreeView control. Glenn Lloyd shows how to incorporate a TreeView control into your application.

Doug Steele **More Favorites** 16 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele continues to show how you can gather data from unexpected places. In this article, he gets URLs from the Internet and a file of exported Opera bookmarks. There are some Web pages on the Internet that are essentially collections of URLs. Can I read the links from those pages and store them in a table?

2005-08 Gold Collection

Scott McManus **Remote Updates of a Back-End Database** 1 Article

In a perfect world, the database design for your application would never change. In the real world, most applications grow and acquire new tables, new relationships, new fields, and new features. Garry Robinson and Scott McManus show you how they keep the databases for their clients up-to-date and in sync with each other.

Garry Robinson **Remote Updates of a Back-End Database** 1 Article

In a perfect world, the database design for your application would never change. In the real world, most applications grow and acquire new tables, new relationships, new fields, and new features. Garry Robinson and Scott McManus show you how they keep the databases for their clients up-to-date and in sync with each other.

Peter Vogel **Objects for the Database Developer** 8 Article

If you've ever felt that object-oriented development is something that Access developers just don't do—well, you're wrong. As Peter Vogel points out, Access developers are uniquely qualified to design objects: They have the attitude and they're already writing the necessary code.

Doug Steele **These Are a Few of My Favorite Things…** 13 Access Answers

In the spirit that eerything is data, Doug Steele looks at how to build a database of favorites (bookmarks) from data extracted from several different Web browsers. Along the way, he provides a very efficient routine for processing files and a number of helper functions for processing files (including INI files).

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

2005-07 Gold Collection

Paul Millennas **Alternative Buttons** 1 Article

With Access, the rule for buttons seems to be “You can have any color button you want, as long as it’s Battleship Grey.” But you don’t have to be that limited: You can expand your buttons’ range in color, texture, and functionality, provided that you’re prepared to bend the rules a little. Paul Millennas shows you how.

Peter Vogel **Our Access** 2 Editorial

The only downside to the conference: At the start of the day, Rob got up and said, We wanted to get the most well-known person in the Access community for our keynote speaker… I was really pleased. That is, until I learned that last year they had Ken Getz as their keynote speaker. Peter writes on about Access and its strengths.

Christopher R. Weber **Explorer Forms with a Single Keystroke** 9 Article

In this action-packed episode, Chris Weber shows you how to use AutoKeys, how to create a sorting form, and how to use AutoKeys to enable you to generate this sorting form with a single keystroke.

Peter Vogel **Managing Access from .NET** 11 Article

You can automate your Access application from a .NET program—but you’d better watch out. If you’re not careful, Access will unexpectedly become unavailable, for instance. More importantly, you need to be able to get rid of Access when you don’t want it anymore. Editor Peter Vogel shows how to handle both of these problems.

Doug Steele **Excelling Automatically** 14 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at several techniques to use Automation from within Access to interact with Excel. By the time he’s done, Doug has exported every table in his Access database to separate sheets in an Excel workbook. I’m having some difficulties interacting with Excel. I have a spreadsheet that I need to get one or two values from, but I can’t link to the spreadsheet or import it, because the sheet just isn’t set up for that.

2005-06 Gold Collection

Peter Vogel **Architecture** 2 Editorial

Its probably no secret that I’m suspicious of too much preparation time. Peter tells why.

Christopher R. Weber **Let Your Users Sort it Out** 8 Article

After getting medieval on the problem, Chris Weber develops a solution that allows users to sort the data in their forms (or subforms) that you can add to your application easily (and spend even less time maintaining). Along the way, he discusses the characteristics of a well-designed module.

Wayne Wallace **Two Functions You Don’t Use Enough** 13 Article

Wayne Wallace shows you how to use two functions (Eval and Format) to do things that you might not have thought of.

Doug Steele **I’ve Got Plenty of Nothing, and Did Someone Say Holiday?** 15 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele starts by looking at a technique for finding unused fields in tables and then moves on to show how to calculate holidays. I recently took over support for a database that’s pretty poorly documented. I’m pretty sure that there are fields some of the tables that aren’t being used. I know that there are third-party tools that will help determine this, but is
there anything I can do first before investing in such tools?

		Page	Article Type
2005-05	Gold Collection		
Russell Sinclair	**Building an Access Add-In with .NET**	1	Article

In Russell Sinclair's article in the March 2005 issue of Smart Access, he showed you how to create builder add-ins for Access. This month, he goes further and shows you the power of add-ins created outside of Access.

Peter Vogel	**Quality**	2	Editorial

I was recently asked, What does quality mean to an Access developer? The person who was asking me was trying to find what areas he should concentrate his development efforts in. Peter discusses this topic further

Andrew Wrigley	**Click Savers**	8	Article

Andrew Wrigley has more than a few tips to make you more productive when working in Access.

Christopher R. Weber	**Easy as Pie**	12	Article

Chris Weber provides you with a generic method to control the data for pie charts that are actually readable.

Doug Steele	**I've Just Got to Get a Message to You**	16	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at some ways to enhance the common MessageBox. While I want to inform my users about what's going on, sometimes they forget that they need to click on the MessageBox to make things happen. Is there some way that I can have the MessageBox automatically close if they don't respond in a reasonable amount of time?

2005-04	Gold Collection		
Michael Watson	**How to Tame the Crosstab Missing Column Beast (and Get a Free Lunch)**	1	Article

Crosstab queries are a powerful means of summarizing data. But they can sometimes lead to unexpected situations. Mike Watson looks at how you can ensure that your data-driven crosstab reports can work reliably. Along the way, he also shows how Access helps you out by ignoring unwanted data.

Christopher R. Weber	**Computing the Median (Again)**	7	Article

You should never calculate the average value of anything without also calculating the median value. Chris Weber explains why and gives you a clean, step-by-step method for deriving the median value from any numeric series. Unlike other published methods, Chris' method uses no temporary
tables or custom functions—all you need is a single query.

Rick Dobson	**Migrating to SQL Server in the Real World**	10	Article

It's an unusual Jet database that will convert smoothly to SQL Server. Rick Dobson shows how to mix your own code with the Upsizing Wizard. But in many cases it's not just Access data that you need to convert, so he shows how Access can let you move Outlook data into SQL Server.

Peter Vogel	**Handling Visual Complexity**	12	Article

Building a great user interface isn't simple—but the result should be. No matter how complex the task is, your users should find it easy to figure how to use your application. Peter Vogel discusses two kinds of complexity and the strategies for making things simple.

Doug Steele	**Close Only Counts in Horseshoes and Databases**	16	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at a couple of techniques to help determine when entries are close enough to be considered the same. My users have problems with the accuracy of their typing. Is there some way that I can check whether something close to the name they typed already exists in the database?

		Page	Article Type
2005-03	Gold Collection		
Peter Vogel	**Service-Oriented Access**	1	Article

Lately, Peter Vogel has been developing Web Service-based applications for several clients. He comes back from the frontiers of technology to talk about what it means to the Access developer.

Peter Vogel	**With Friends Like These**	2	Editorial

One of the benefits of hanging around in this business is that I get to meet a lot of people who are brighter than me and far more knowledgeable. Unfortunately, they keep upsetting my vision of the Access universe. For instance, a recent upsetting incident is about to cause me to issue a heartfelt apology to you.

Russell Sinclair	**Constructing a SQL Parameter Add-in**	7	Article

In this article, Russell Sinclair brings a missing feature to Access Data Project development and shows how you can create your own builder add-ins.

Garry Robinson	**Getting More Out of Access 2003 Help**	10	Article

Where do you find out about how to program Access? From books? From articles? More developers get their information from the Access Help system than any other source—if they can find what they need. Garry Robinson provides some tips for speeding up your searches, recommends a Help strategy, and suggests some new directions for the development of Access Help.

Doug Steele	**Hide Your Input, and it's Pretty Common**	14	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at how you can enhance the built-in InputBox, as well as how to programmatically call a couple of the standard Windows dialogs (the Color and Font dialogs). Is there any way that I can use the InputBox, but conceal what's being keyed in, like what happens when you're keying in a password?

Peter Vogel	**File open Dialog options**	18	Article

If you use the file open dialog and install your application on multiple computers, you'll eventually find an ugly surprise waiting for you on windows XP. Peter Vogel looks at the two solutions available to you.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type
2005-02	Gold Collection		
Rebecca Riordan	**Fuzzy Dates**	1	Article

This month, Rebecca Riordan strays from the subject of building interfaces in Access to look at the subject of handling dates. She begins by examining the DateTime data type and the joys of VBA date functions, but the core of this article is how to store values that represent periods in time. As Rebecca points out, much date-like data can't (or at least shouldn't) be stored in traditional DateTime fields.

Peter Vogel	**Scenarios**	2	Editorial

When I build an application, I need two pieces of information first: a database design and a list of user scenarios. You're probably pretty clear on what a database… but may be unfamiliar with what a user scenario is.

Rick Dobson	**Eventful Formatting for Access Forms**	7	Article

Dynamically changing your form's properties at runtime can often provide a better experience for your users. Rick Dobson shows you some secrets for dynamically changing your form's background as it gains and loses focus, keeping subforms in view, and providing colorful feedback for data.

Danny J. Lesandrini	**Grover Park George on Access**	13	Review

Is there room for one more really good introductory book on databases? George Hepworth thought so, and after reading his book, Grover Park George on Access, Danny Lesandrini agrees. If you're new to Microsoft Access, this book is a great place to start. If you're already an Access guru, you won't find anything new in this guided tour for the database challenged, but it's definitely the kind of book you'll want all of your clients to read.

Peter Vogel	**Single Sourcing Your Help**	14	Article

If you're creating an application, you really should create some support for your users Help file and a user manual are the least that you could do. If you're an Office user, DocToHelp from ComponentOne is probably your best choice for creating both and you only have to create a single document.

Doug Steele	**Give Me a Call and Save Yourself Some Work**	15	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at an approach to analyzing telephone logs, as well as an undocumented feature within Access that allows you to save Access objects as text files.

2005-01	Gold Collection		
Garry Robinson	**Access 2006: The Smart Access Community Speaks Up**	1	Editorial

In the August 2004 issue, Peter and I threw the challenge to the readers of Smart Access to come up with ideas for the next version of Access. At the start of a new year, it seems appropriate to look ahead to what the Access community wants to see in our product. I'm glad to report that the response for this was great—so great that we actually received more than 200 separate ideas about what you folks are really interested in. Read more about what you said.

Andrew Wrigley	**Extending Access Reports with Word and HTML**	6	Article

Andrew Wrigley shows how to leverage Access reports to produce intricately formatted reports that "flow" as if typed into a word processor. The technique delivers the report in two eminently portable file formats—as a Web-ready HTML file and as a RichText Format document—so your happy clients get double value for their money. The only additional skill that you need is a basic understanding of HTML and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS).

Rick Dobson	**Conditional Formats on Access Forms**	10	Article

Conditional formats let you flag exceptional values or highlight important results to your users. Rick Dobson shows you several easy (and powerful) ways to implement conditional formats and lower the bar dramatically when implementing conditional formats.

Doug Steele	**Does This File Register with You?**	15	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at how to interact with external files—specifically, how to open or print them. If I have the name of a file, how can I open it in whatever program is appropriate for it? In other words, if I have a Word document, how can I open it in Word, or a spreadsheet in Excel?

		Page	Article Type
2004-12	Gold Collection		
Rebecca Riordan	**Access Interfaces Handling Price Ranges**	1	Article

This month Rebecca Riordan looks at implementing a common business rule. In fact, she provides two methods for handling the common case of multiple prices for a given product, depending on the quantity ordered the customer pays $1.79 each for buying up to nine items, but only $1.69 each when buying 10-14 items, and so on.

Peter Vogel	**Forgive me, I have sinned**	2	Editorial

The following story may serve as an object lesson to you about the perils of poor database design.

Andrew Wrigley	**Do More for Less: Leveraging Your DBMS**	7	Article

You're probably doing too much work—you should be taking advantage of your DBMS's facilities to get more done in less time. Andrew Wrigley discusses how the principles of declarative design, cascading, and overriding let you have Jet, SQL Server, or the MSDE do more work for you.

Frank Kegley	**Decomposing a Badly Designed Table**	11	Article

Many users have decided that they don't need the full power of an RDBMS and that Excel is the right choice for storing data. It's not a bad choice, until the application grows to the point that they do need a "real database." Frank Kegley shows you how to handle the typical problems of converting from Excel to Access.

Peter Vogel	**SageKey MSI Wizard**	14	Review

One of the major challenges facing Access developers is distributing their applications. SageKey, long a provider of components for Access installation solutions, steps in with a complete solution. Editor Peter Vogel takes it for a test drive.

Doug Steele	**Making the Grade**	15	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at a common problem in database design: converting from one data classification schema to another. He then moves on to a related question: ensuring that there are no overlapping records in a list of ranges (for example, a list of scheduled events). This results in some thorny SQL, but the results can be used in a wide variety of circumstances.

2004-11	Gold Collection		
Danny J. Lesandrini	**Access 2003 Conversion Toolkit**	1	Review

Danny Lesandrini predicts that in the year 2010 we're going to look back and decide that the release of the Microsoft Access 2003 Conversion Toolkit was the most significant event of the decade for Access consultants. Danny explains (along with comments from Jon Sigler, Group Program Manager for Microsoft Access) why, if you plan to make your living delivering Microsoft Access applications, you owe it to yourself to consider the Conversion Toolkit's place in your practice.

Peter Vogel	**Definition of Insanity**	2	Editorial

A definition of insanity is "Doing the same thing over and over again while expecting to get a different result." Peter curses his cat and describes a client within these parameters.

Rebecca Riordan	**Building Explorer-style Forms**	6	Review

This month, Rebecca Riordan looks at the surprisingly simple process of implementing an Explorer-style form architecture using the TreeView component that's part of the Windows XP Common Control Library.

Rick Dobson	**Visual Basic .NET Development for Access Developers**	10	Article

Face it: .NET is coming (if it's not already here for you). The faster you learn it, the faster you can benefit from it. This month, Rick Dobson tackles the topic of how to make VB.NET play with Access databases.

Doug Steele	**Sounds Good to Me and Stupid Date Tricks**	16	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele talks about how to play MP3 files from your Access application, as well as showing a useful formula to use with date calculations. How can I play an MP3 in my application?

2004-10 Gold Collection

Bogdan Zamfir **Using FTP from access applications** 1 Article

We live in a connected world -- Almost every system has to exchange data with another system. One of the oldest and widespread communication protocols is FTP. In this article, Bogdan Zamfir shows you how you can incorporate FTP access into your applications.

Rick Dobson **Consolidating Outlook contact data** 6 Article

Good database design ensures that there's only one place to store any piece of data. But in many companies, data is stored in many places on many different computers. Outlook data is one example -- important customer data ends up being stored on many different desktops. Rick Dobson shows two ways to pull that data together.

Tobi Hoffman **Invisible forms revisited: park your gloabl values here!** 12 Article

Back in February 2003, Tobi Hoffman wrote an article about using invisible forms in conjunction with Citrix or Terminal Services based access databases. Since then, Tobi has discovered that adding an invisible form to your application can make a number of difficult tasks much easier.

Doug Steele **We get letters…** 15 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele passes on feedback he's received from readers about past columns. Along the way, he shows how different priorities cause different programmers to come up with different solutions for the same problem.

2004-09 Gold Collection

Rebecca Riordan **Access Interfaces User Configuration** 1 Article

This month, Rebecca Riordan discusses the importance of giving your users control over fundamental UI elements such as fonts and colors. It’s simple to do, and your users will love you for it.

Rick Dobson **Sending E-mail with Access** 6 Article

In this article, Rick Dobson explores using the robust database management features of Access to develop e-mail solutions for managing business relationships.

Garry Robinson **Access Traps for the Naïve Developer** 11 Article

We all love Access, but our favorite tool has many “features” that lead the naïve developer into error. You may not appreciate the cost of these less-than-helpful additions but, should you upgrade to an enterprise database, you’ll regret every one of them. Garry Robinson outlines those errors and how to avoid them (along with some code to find the errors).

Doug Steele **Working All Day** 15 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at calculating working days. DateDiff computes how many days there are between two dates, but I want to only consider working days. Is there an easy way to ignore Saturdays and Sundays?

2004-08 Gold Collection

Garry Robinson **Access 2006— Have Your Say** 1 Editorial

The purpose of this editorial is to encourage you to put forward your own ideas about what you want to see in the next version of Access. We encourage you to send in your ideas, and we'll publish them (in full) on my Web site.

Rebecca Riordan **Managing State Transitions** 2 Article

This month, Rebecca Riordan looks at two simple techniques for expanding the standard Lookup tables. First, she shows you how Lookup tables can handle hierarchies, but then she moves on to show how to manage state transitions—the movement of an entity from one state (married, for example) to another (separated or divorced). As you'll see, even complex transition rules can be modelled using a very simple variation of the standard Lookup table.

Rick Dobson **Manipulating Outlook Data from Access** 6 Article

In this article, Rick Dobson discusses managing Outlook contact data from Access programmatically and searching through that contact data. He also takes a look at the Outlook Security Guard and explores a way to work around it.

Christopher R. Weber **The FileSystemObject** 11 Article

Sometimes your data isn't a database; sometimes you need to get data from a flat file. Or maybe you need information about your users' files. Chris Weber shows how to solve all of these problems with the FileSystemObject.

Doug Steele **Working with or without a DSN** 15 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele answers questions about connecting to external databases like SQL Server and Oracle. Okay, I know how to work with desktop data sources than Access, such as Excel or dBase. What about using other databases such as SQL Server or Oracle?

2004-07 Gold Collection

Bogdan Zamfir **Lost in Translation** 1 Article

Modern programming environments offer many features that enable software applications to be developed with multi-language support. However, what many companies need is an application that can be deployed in different languages in different locations or for different employees. Bogdan Zamfir shows how to create a multi-language application.

Rick Dobson **Rigging Triggers from Access Projects** 9 Article

Rick Dobson tackles two important topics in this article. The first is when and why you would want to use a trigger in an Access project—Rick shows how triggers can be used to solve typical problems in an application. The second is how to create a trigger in SQL Server (including how to take advantage of SQL Server's new trigger features).

Doug Steele **Dude, Where's My Data?** 15 Access Answers

In "Access Answers," Doug Steele addresses commonly asked questions from Access developers. This month, he starts a discussion about using data from other sources. I've just been given a database that's split into a front end pointing to a back end. How can I tell where the back end is supposed to be?

2004-06 Gold Collection

George Hepworth **Dynamic Menus** 1 Article

If you really love the switchboard menus created by the Access Switchboard menu, this article isn't for you. However, if you're one of those people who think "There has to be a better way," read on. George Hepworth takes you from design to implementation as he shows you how he creates an alternative to the switchboard.

Peter Vogel **Communication** 2 Editorial

As I get older and deafer, most of my problems arise when listening to people—especially people with accents (I, of course, have no accent). Read the rest of Peter's Editorial.

Rebecca Riordan **Creating Paired ListBox Controls, Part 2** 10 Article

This month, Rebecca Riordan continues her examination of paired ListBox controls by adding two additional functions: deferring data updates until users explicitly commit their changes, and restoring the contents of the paired ListBox controls to their initial state.

Doug Steele **Shortcuts, Quotes, and What Have I Done?** 15 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele shows one way to add shortcuts to your application, demonstrates how to handle embedded quotes in SQL statements, and provides a quick documenter to list the objects in your application.

2004-05 Gold Collection

Rebecca Riordan **Access Interfaces Creating Paired ListBox Controls, Part 1** 1 Article

Presenting a pair of ListBox controls to the user and allowing the user to move an item from one to the other is a popular and effective user interface technique. Microsoft Access doesn't provide any intrinsic controls for performing this, but as Rebecca Riordan demonstrates this month, it's easy to create linked ListBox controls and base them on a single table, two tables, or even data created at runtime.

Peter Vogel **Spam Killers** 2 Editorial

What is it about spam that makes smoke come out of my ears?

Garry Robinson **How to Avoid an Access 2003 Sandbox Storm** 8 Article

Just because you're not upgrading to Access 2003 doesn't mean that someone won't try to open your data with Access 2003 installed on their computer. After a potentially disastrous experience with Access 2003's new security, Garry Robinson learned how to deal with the new "features"—and how to write Access applications so that they'll avoid the new security restrictions that Access imposes.

Danny J. Lesandrini **Real-World Access Security** 14 Review

For months I looked forward to the arrival of this new book. When I finally got a copy, I devoured it in a single weekend and I wasn't disappointed with what I read. Garry Robinson's new book is a must have for all serious Access developers: This 492-page book is well worth its $59.99 list price. Here, Danny Lesandrini offers his review.

Doug Steele **Becoming an Access Groupie** 16 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele gathers together several questions around handling groups of controls to provide alternative solutions to a common problem. I have a number of controls on my form that I need to be able to make visible or not depending on what's happening in the program logic. Is there an easier way than having a whole series of VBA statements, one per control?

		Page	Article Type
2004-04	Gold Collection		
Rick Dobson	**Signing Access 2003 Projects**	1	Article

If you've used Access 2003, you've probably seen several security warning messages—Access 2003 cares about your security. An important part of Access 2003 security is digitally signing your code. As Rick Dobson shows, you can do it, but preparing for digital signing is critical.

Peter Vogel	**Who's the Bad Guy (part 2) ?**	2	Editorial

Andrew Benner wrote in to discuss Peter's January editorial on viruses. Peter takes the criticism on board.

Christopher R. Weber	**Repeating Information**	9	Article

Data entry personnel often find themselves entering the same information over and over again. Chris Weber shows how you can support that activity.

Rebecca Riordan	**How to Write an Access Book**	11	Article

If you've ever considered writing a technical book, or just wondered how the books that you buy get on the shelf, this article will explain the process. You may be surprised at how familiar the process looks to an application developer. Rebecca Riordan gives you another way to look at the application development process.

Doug Steele	**Mind the Gap, Take Your Time, and How Long is a String?**	15	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele shows how to find missing numbers in sequences, provide a timing capability in your programs, and determine the number of times a given substring occurs in a string. I've got a table with invoice numbers in it. These numbers are supposed to be sequential, but some of them don't exist in the table. How can I tell which numbers are missing?

2004-03	Gold Collection		
Peter Vogel	**Excellent Analysis**	1	Article

Delivering information as a report may not be enough for your users—they may want to manipulate, analyze, and otherwise explore the data. Unfortunately, for that you need Excel. Editor Peter Vogel shows you how to create an Excel spreadsheet that includes the most powerful analysis tool that Excel contains: the PivotTable.

Rebecca Riordan	**Implementing Proactive User Assistance**	6	Article

A well-designed application provides help on several levels. Control captions, status bar text, and ToolTips provide passive support. Progress meters, system messages, and traditional online Help provide reactive support. Both of these types of user assistance add to the application's ease of use. But there's a third type of user assistance that's frequently overlooked— Rebecca Riordan explains.

Rick Dobson	**Creating SQL Server Tables with Access Projects**	11	Article

In the future, Access developers are going to have to become familiar with SQL Server databases. Rick Dobson explains why Access projects matter to you. He also shows you how your Access Jet knowledge maps to Access Data Projects by looking at a fundamental task in application development with Access: creating SQL Server tables.

Doug Steele	**"Check, Please" and Procedures in the Event of Problems…**	15	Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at how to have larger checkboxes and how to deal with code that gets unlinked from the control to which it's supposed to be linked. How can I change the size of the checkbox on my form?

2004-02 Gold Collection

Rebecca Riordan **Improving Data Entry Feedback with Sound** 1 Article

Most applications use message boxes for providing reactive feedback, but they have some serious drawbacks in the "heads down" data entry environment. In this article, Rebecca Riordan demonstrates a technique that replaces message boxes with sound and status bar text messages.

Peter Vogel **Sounding Off** 2 Editorial

This month's issue on using sound made me think of other places where sound is used effectively write Peter in his editorial.

Rick Dobson **Accessing Subforms** 6 Article

The Access subform wizards do much of the work in connecting a main form to its subform. In this article, Rick Dobson goes beyond the wizards to show you how to perform two new tasks with a subform. He also takes you behind the scenes to increase your understanding of how to access the subform inside a subform control.

Bogdan Zamfir **Dealing with File Names** 11 Article

Access applications can use Jet databases, other databases (as linked tables), or SQL Server. But sometimes you need to work with files on your hard disk. Bogdan Zamfir provides you with every function that you'll need to work with file names— including converting from UNC names to mapped drives (and back again).

Doug Steele **More Dragging Around and Cuing Banners** 15 Access Answers

Doug Steele tries to address commonly asked questions from Access developers. This month, he extends his look at how to add drag-and-drop to an Access application, as well as looking at how to simulate XP Cue Banners. I tried implementing your drag-and-drop code from your article in the January 2003 issue. That worked well, but I want to go one step further: Can I drag from other applications to an Access application?

2004-01 Gold Collection

Doug Steele **What a Drag it is: Drag and Drop in Access** 1 Article

This month, Doug Steele shows you how to add drag-and-drop to your Access application using combinations of multi-value and single-value controls.

Peter Vogel **Who's the Bad Guy?** 2 Editorial

The latest Microsoft-bashing around the proliferation of viruses and worms seems misplaced to me Peter writes

Rebecca Riordan **Supporting Custom Sort Orders** 8 Article

Presenting data to your users in an order that makes sense to them is essential. Both Jet and SQL Server support sorting one or more fields in a table alphabetically, numerically, and chronologically. That's great, but sometimes you need more options. Rebecca Riordan shows you how to handle user-defined sort orders.

Garry Robinson **Restricting Who Can Use Your Database** 11 Article

Garry Robinson is back after a long silence. He explains why he's been away and gives you a preview of his upcoming book on Access security. In this article, you'll see how to add another level of security to your database by leveraging the Windows security system.

Russell Sinclair **Handling Print Layout** 16 Article

Your users like to have some flexibility in how they get their printed data—but they give up the ability to modify printer settings when you compile or secure your applications. Or do they have to? Russell Sinclair takes a look at how you can handle form and report print layouts in secured or compiled projects while still giving your users a little freedom.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type

2003-12 Silver Collection

Rebecca M. Riordan **Using List Regions with Many-to-Many Relationships** 1 Article

Many-to-many relationships are a fact of life in real-world applications. They are, however, difficult to display in a typical Access form. The answer: list regions. Rebecca Riordan shows you how to implement this powerful tool in Access.

Rick Dobson **Programming Pivot Tables fro Access Forms** 7 Article

Pivot tables represent a powerful way to convey the data in Access databases, and they empower users to perform many tasks that used to require custom programming. In this article, Rick Dobson shows how you can enable your users to manipulate data with pivot tables.

Roy C. Dixon **The ABCs of Bulk Email** 12 Article

The latest releases and updates of Microsoft Office severely restrict you from sending bulk e-mail messages from Access through Outlook. To overcome this problem, Roy Dixon switched to the Gammadyne Mailer program.

Doug Steele **But it Worked Yesterday!** 16 Article

This month, Doug Steele explains why Access applications suddenly stop working, or work on some machines but not others.

2003-11 Silver Collection

Frank Sutherland **Two Things You Didn't Know You Could Do With Reports (and More!)** 1 Article

If you think that reports are boring, Chris Weber and Frank Sutherland are going to show you just how wrong you can be. They also throw in a tip to solve a common problem and show how to improve report performance.

Christopher R. Weber **Two Things You Didn't Know You Could Do With Reports (and More!)** 1 Article

If you think that reports are boring, Chris Weber and Frank Sutherland are going to show you just how wrong you can be. They also throw in a tip to solve a common problem and show how to improve report performance.

Peter Vogel **The Future of Jet?** 2 Editorial

I get asked quite frequently if SQL Server will replace Access? A better question would be, "Is Jet going to be replaced by SQL Server?" Peter looks at these questions.

Peter Vogel **Access 2003 and XML** 8 Article

The new XML features in Access 2003 aren't just an interesting enhancement-they have the potential to redefine the role of Access in Office applications. Peter Vogel explains. XML in the user interface.

Dave Gannon **Outputting Flexible Data** 12 Article

Producing static reports is easy—but what if your users want to be able to customize their output? Dave Gannon and Nich Mann look at all the options available to you and let you in on the best answer.

Nich Mann **Outputting Flexible Data** 12 Article

Producing static reports is easy—but what if your users want to be able to customize their output? Dave Gannon and Nich Mann look at all the options available to you and let you in on the best answer.

Doug Steele **Doing Two Things at Once, and Web Service Wannabes** 16 Access Answers

This month, Doug Steele looks at how to update and insert in one step, and also explores a way to get information from the Internet.

		Page	Article Type
2003-10	Silver Collection		
Andrew Wrigley	**Giving Your Access Form Controls Web-style Behaviours**	1	Article

If you've surfed the Web, you've noticed rollover behaviour—you slide your mouse over a control and it's highlighted. You can do the same in your Access applications and even make it useful. Andrew Wrigley shows you how.

Rick Dobson	**Packaging Access 2003 Solutions**	8	Article

Creating a reliable setup package for Access has often been fraught with peril. Rick Dobson looks at how well the latest version of Access handles the difficult task of distributing your application.

Danny J. Lesandrini	**How to Pad Access Reports With Blank Rows**	12	Article

Have you ever wrestled with a coding problem for hours, and then suddenly the solution jumps out at you? Join Danny Lesandrini as he relates one of his "ah-ha" moments, and if you don't agree that his solution is genuinely clever, submit your own idea.

Doug Steele	**How to be Regular-and About Time!**	14	Article

In which Doug Steele addresses commonly asked questions from Access developers. This month, he looks at using Regular Expressions in Access, as well as problems dealing with time values.

2003-09	Silver Collection		
Mike Gunderloy	**Access 2003 and Windows SharePoint Services**	1	Article

After a decade of 32-bit development, you might think that Microsoft Office was finished. Despite that, Microsoft is still finding new things to put in to the Office box. In Office 2003, there's a renewed emphasis on collaborative features, cantering around the newly renamed Windows SharePoint Services. In this article, Mike Gunderloy shows you how Access 2003 can work with data stored in SharePoint.

Peter Vogel	**Summer Reading: A Book About Me**	2	Editorial

I wanted to mention another book that I've been reading lately. It isn't about Access or programming. It is, however, about being a programmer.

Peter Vogel	**The Access Developer's Bookshelf**	7	Article

This month, Wayne Wallace and Peter Vogel put their heads together to give you a list of books that you can't write applications without.

Danny J. Lesandrini	**Questica Query Dependencies**	9	Review

Sometimes developers get excited about the simplest things. This month, Danny Lesandrini relates his excitement over a new donationware tool for navigating around Microsoft Access query dependencies and references.

Peter Vogel	**Creating Spreadsheets Without Excel**	11	Article

Since the release of Office XP, it's been possible to create spreadsheets by using ExcelML. Peter Vogel shows you how to use this technology to create spreadsheets that can be sent anywhere.

Following on a series of articles that have been featured over the past few months, Peter takes a look at a variety of issues around sub queries - including those occasions when you shouldn't use a Join.

Doug Steele	**Access Developer Needs a Date**	14	Article

In which Doug Steele addresses commonly asked questions from Access developers. This month, he looks at problems dealing with date values.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

2003-08 Silver Collection

Richard Hunt **Send Data Without Attachments!** 1 Article

Access has always provided a way for you to send data via e-mail, but your data has to go out as an e-mail attachment. As Richard Hunt points out, using attachments creates its own set of problems. In this article Richard provides an alternative to using attachments.

Peter Vogel **Staying Alive** 2 Editorial

Last month I talked about developing your competitive advantage. The goal in developing a competitive advantage is to take your unique characteristics and combine them to make a contribution that no one else can make. Peter discusses further.

Rick Dobson **An Access Explorer for SQL Server Tables** 8 Article

Rick Dobson follows up last month's article with another tool for exploring SQL Server databases. Rick's table explorer allows you to connect to any database, pull up any table in the database, and review or update the data in the table.

Danny J. Lesandrini **User Preferences, Toggles, and Rocket Science** 14 Article

Maybe it isn't rocket science, but maintaining user preferences will make your applications more appealing. Follow along as Danny Lesandrini demonstrates how you can maintain a variety of user-defined options.

Peter Vogel **Access and Word 2003** 17 Article

Up until now, creating Word documents from Access required extensive knowledge of the Word object model plus some significant programming knowledge. With Word 2003, that's all changed. Peter Vogel illustrates how you don't even need Access 2003 to take advantage of Word's new functionality.

2003-07 Silver Collection

Christopher R. Weber **Dynamic Checklists** 1 Article

Users like to see the big picture, and often that includes items they've selected as well as what they haven't selected. Check boxes are interface widgets that meet these needs, but they can be cumbersome to maintain. Chris Weber shows us his technique for creating dynamically generated check box lists that don't require intervention by the developer when the possible selections change.

Peter Vogel **A Competitive Advantage** 2 Editorial

Peter discusses Artifical Intellegence and Gaming and argues "that I believe that the more things you can expose yourself to, the more you can do."

Rick Dobson **A SQL Server Database and Object Explorer** 8 Article

One of the major deficiencies in Access data projects is the lack of tools for managing MSDE databases. Rick Dobson steps into the breach with an Access utility for exploring databases-and shows you how to use SQL-DMO on the way. reference list to the Microsoft SQLDMO Object Library (this is the name for SQL-DMO that appears in the References dialog box).

Danny J. Lesandrini **The Economy, Technology, and MDB Artisan** 14 Review

Product review, editorial, or career advice-you be the judge as Danny Lesandrini looks at why Access is becoming more popular, why Access developers are in greater demand, and how a tool can help you meet that demand.

Christopher R. Weber **Ordering Controls, Fixing Bugs, and Speeding Up Remote Databases** 16 Article

Chris Weber returns to his list of most asked questions to address some pressing issues for Access developers. This month he looks at managing your control's tab order, provides an easy solution for an annoying Access bug, and shows an easy way to improve performance when retrieving large recordsets from remote computers.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

2003-06 Silver Collection

Peter Vogel **Making Your Applications Talk** 1 Article

Not everyone has 20/20 vision. If you're displaying large amounts of text, it might be easier for your users to listen to your data. When something goes wrong, you might want to provide an audible cue that's more informative than 'beep.' For all of these tasks, the Microsoft TextToSpeech object is just what you need. Peter Vogel leads the conversation.

Peter Vogel **XML and Relational Databases** 2 Editorial

One course that I teach is four days on relational database design. The last time that I taught the course, one participant asked about "XML databases" and whether they would replace relational databases. Peter writes about XML in this editorial.

Dave Gannon **Adding Style to Reports** 8 Article

Tired of creating boring reports? Dave Gannon and Nich Mann show you how to add some visual pizzazz.

Nich Mann **Adding Style to Reports** 8 Article

Tired of creating boring reports? Dave Gannon and Nich Mann show you how to add some visual pizzazz.

Garry Robinson **Accessing the FileDialog Object** 10 Article

One of the best ways to make your database look like a 'real application' is to tap into the standard Windows routines-and using these routines also saves you time. Garry Robinson shows you how to use the Windows File Open dialog to let your users select files the Windows way.

Wayne Wallace **Switchboards and Security** 14 Article

Wherein Wayne Wallace solves two problems in one question: finding out whether a user can access a form and configuring a switchboard to access only the permitted forms. Not content with what the customer asks for, he provides an even better solution. Wayne then looks at two issues in SQL: no normalized data and logical Nots.

2003-05 Silver Collection

Danny J. Lesandrini **Access: Your New .NET Report Writer** 1 Article

In the May 2002 issue of Smart Access, Danny Lesandrini showed how easy it is to migrate existing Access reports to the Web using the ExportXML function of Access 2002. A little tinkering with this feature of Access has revealed its potential as a .NET report-writing tool. Follow along as he shows how to create complex reports for .NET applications using your favorite development tool, Microsoft Access.

Peter Vogel **Looking at .NET with T-SQL** 2 Editorial

Mary Chipman, who's probably forgotten more about SQL Server than I can ever hope to know, wanted to make sure that we send the right message about the future of T-SQL. Peter writes about this and .Net in his editorial.

Scott McManus **Processing E-mail Orders Using Outlook and Access** 7 Article

Garry Robinson and Scott McManus show how they accepted orders placed for their company's software through an online ordering system. With some Access code that links to Outlook, they process those orders automatically.

Garry Robinson **Processing E-mail Orders Using Outlook and Access** 7 Article

Garry Robinson and Scott McManus show how they accepted orders placed for their company's software through an online ordering system. With some Access code that links to Outlook, they process those orders automatically.

Scott McManus **Excel: Data Entry for Access?** 10 Article

For your users who feel more comfortable inputting data in a spreadsheet environment, Scott McManus shows you how to take an Excel spreadsheet and turn it into a data entry form for Access complete with data verification and error checking. By combining Automation, Excel templates, and Excel's data validation option, you can have the same control over users' input as you would in Access using lookup tables, relationships, and rules.

Peter Vogel **Calculating the Median** 16 Access Answers

In this column Peter Vogel answers just one query-but it's a good one. Along the way, he demonstrates how to 'think in SQL.'

		Page	Article Type
2003-04	**Silver Collection**		
Mike Gunderloy	**Understanding Access with the Workflow Designer for SQL Server**	1	Article

Microsoft offers more development tools than anyone can easily keep track of. Some of them even work with Access. In this article, Mike Gunderloy takes a look at the little-known Workflow Designer for SQL Server, a part of the Microsoft Office XP Developer package. Despite its name, this tool actually depends on Access for integration into your business processes.

Peter Vogel	**Your Future**	2	Editorial

Peter writes about ADPs and SQL Server. "I firmly believe that most developers whose future doesn't include ADPs aren't stupid or lazy or dinosaurs. They don't look at ADPs for a simple reason: Jet works."

Scott McManus	**Data Modelling with Access and Visio**	8	Article

The latest version of Visio-Visio 2002 for Access Database Developers-provides a data modelling and documentation tool for Access database developers. The most exciting features of Visio 2002 handle some of the most mundane (and perhaps neglected) parts of Access database development: documentation and design. Scott McManus is your guide.

Peter Vogel	**Deleting Records, Reports, Data Design, and Reader Contributions**	15	Access Answers

Peter Vogel answers a variety of questions cantered around deleting records in subforms, setting the RecordSource dynamically in a report, and modeling data. He also gets some help from a reader and tells another to "Just Say No."

2003-03	**Silver Collection**		
Peter Heskett	**The Sub-Subform You've Always Wanted**	1	Article

Access won't let you have a subform within a subform if the data has to be displayed in a continuous form. But necessity is the mother of invention, and Peter Heskett found a way by using senior and junior subforms. He also shares a few other tricks for handling forms.

Mary Chipman	**Moving from Access/Jet to ADPs: The Top 10 Ways to Fail**	6	Article

Access Data Projects are wonderful, so you're told. But what can go wrong? Mary Chipman describes 10 different ways that you can make your conversion to ADPs a disaster.

Peter Vogel	**Choosing Options**	10	Article

Access provides three different ways for users to select among multiple choices: check boxes, option buttons, and toggles—-and then there are option groups. Peter Vogel looks at what you can (and can't) do with these tools.

Russell Sinclair	**User-Defined Functions**	12	Article

In this month's instalment of 'Working T-SQL,' Russell Sinclair introduces SQL Server user-defined functions and shows how you can put these new SQL Server objects to work in your Access application.

Christopher R. Weber	**Managing Cursors, Quotes, Subforms, and Missing Data**	17	Access Answers

Wherein Chris Weber looks at four problems: handling missing data in reports, customizing the cursor, variable] sized subforms, and managing quotes.

		Page	Article Type
2003-02	Silver Collection		
Tobi Hoffman	**Using Invisible Forms to Track Users**	1	Article

Migrating a project into the Citrix platform provided a workable environment for Tobi Hoffman's company's people nationwide to access a single database, yet presented some unexpected challenges. Since Citrix forced all of his users into a single application, keeping track of users' individual security clearances was almost impossible-until he implemented a form that no one saw.

Peter Vogel	**Coming Next: Access 11/XP**	2	Editorial

Microsoft has posted a white paper about what to expect in the next version of Access. For the past two years, we here at Smart Access have been guessing about what you'd need to know next. Read more on Peters conclusions about this post.

Christopher R. Weber	**Navigating Through Recursion, Part 2**	8	Article

Knowing your way around your Access project is important for any developer. In this article, Christopher Weber demonstrates his recursive query and the reporting techniques he uses to generate a tree navigation map of a database. Along the way, he builds a reusable module that uses Access graphics to draw hierarchies in reports.

Gord Maric	**Crystal Reports 9's Microsoft Access Repository**	11	Article

Like many other products, Crystal Reports uses Microsoft Access under its hood. Gord Maric shows you how Crystal Reports uses Access as a repository to build reports with shared components. With that information, you're just one step away from managing that repository from Access itself.

Peter Vogel	**An Object-Oriented Speed Tip**	12	Smart Tip

An Object-Oriented Speed Tip

Russell Sinclair	**Using Triggers**	13	Article

Last month, Russell Sinclair explained the anatomy of triggers and how they work. In this month's instalment of 'Working T-SQL,' he shows you how to write triggers and how to put them to work in your database application.

Peter Vogel	**Deleting Records, Reports, Data Design, and Reader Contributions**	15	Article

Peter Vogel answers a variety of questions centered around deleting records in subforms, setting the RecordSource dynamically in a report, and modeling data. He also gets some help from a reader and tells another to 'Just Say No.'

Peter Vogel	**Combining Tables**	18	Access Answers

This month, Peter Vogel looks at reporting from two tables where one table overrides entries in the other table.

2003-01	Silver Collection		
Christopher R. Weber	**Navigating Through Recursion, Part 1**	1	Article

Knowing your way around your Access project is important for any developer. In this first of two installments, Christopher Weber takes us through a navigation map generating algorithm he uses to populate a table that describes how the forms and reports in an Access database relate to each other. In next month's issue, Chris will demonstrate recursive query and reporting techniques he uses to generate a tree navigation map of the database.

Peter Vogel	**So Here's My Plan**	2	Editorial

So here's Peter's Plan to the challenge of "Life keeps getting more complicated for the editor of a Microsoft newsletter. "

Russell Sinclair	**Understanding Triggers**	10	Article

In the inaugural article in a new ongoing series, Russell Sinclair takes you through the concepts you need to know in order to understand what triggers are, what they do, and how to use them correctly in Access applications.

Danny J. Lesandrini	**CompareWiz 2002**	14	Review

This month's Product Review features an inexpensive Add-In that could save you hours of development time. Danny J. Lesandrini explores this simple, yet powerful tool. same database.

Peter Vogel	**Dates, Data Access, and Presentation**	16	Access Answers

This month, Peter Vogel looks at a problem in managing dates and displaying information using conditional formatting. He starts with a solution to the problem, but uses that as a springboard to discuss what processing should be done in the different parts of your application

		Page	Article Type
2002-12	Silver Collection		
Wayne Wallace	**Using Context- Sensitive Menus**	1	Article

One of the best things about the latest versions of Windows is the pop-up menus that spring up when you right-click on an object. Wayne Wallace shows how you can add this same capability to your Access 2002 applications.

Peter Vogel	**And The Good News Is…**	2	Editorial

In the rush to build Web applications, Access developers may have felt left behind. While it's certainly possible to access your data in a Jet or SQL Server database from a Web application, and while there are certainly ways to move ADO data back and forth over the Internet, Access isn't a Web development tool.Peter discusses this conundrum

Russell Sinclair	**Using SQL-DMO to Handle Security in ADPs**	8	Article

MSDE is a powerful, free version of SQL Server that you can make available to your users. In this issue, Russell Sinclair introduces you to SQL-DMO—the SQL Server administrative programming library—and shows you how you can put it to use by creating a security add-in for ADPs.

Danny J. Lesandrini	**SQL Anywhere Studio 8**	12	Review

Is Microsoft SQL Server the natural follow-on to Microsoft Access? Danny Lesandrini investigates the possibilities of upsizing to SQL Anywhere.

Peter Vogel	**Integrating, Tagging, Printing, and Expanding**	14	Access Answers

In this month's Access Answers column, Peter Vogel looks at replacing perfectly good Access functions, having multiple utilities share a control's tag property, printing PDF files from Access reports, and the issues around creating an expanding/ contracting form. He also disappoints at least one reader.

2002-11	Silver Collection		
Keith Bombard	**Error Trapping with a Code Builder**	1	Article

If you code for a living, you know that error trapping is a drag. But it's also an essential part of any serious Access development project. Here Keith Bombard introduces a new tool to automatically insert error-handling code into your Access applications.

Peter Vogel	**Moving to the Web**	3	Editorial

Many of the Access developers I work with have companies that want to move their applications either to Visual Basic, Visual Basic .NET, or the Web. Peter discusses this …

Danny J. Lesandrini	**Superior Software for Windows (SSW)**	8	Article

While scouring the Internet for Access-related products to review, Danny J. Lesandrini stumbled upon an Access developer's resource site worth writing home about. See how some of our friends 'down under' have carved out a niche for themselves with our favorite development platform.

Danny J. Lesandrini	**Access Reporter .NET for IIS**	10	Review

Microsoft Access is simply the best report-writing tool on the market. That being the case, wouldn't it be great if you could use Access to design reports for your Web site? Or better yet, wouldn't you love to leverage your existing Access reports as Web documents? If that sounds like a solution to one or more of your business problems, then read on as Danny Lesandrini explores a product called Access Reporter .NET for IIS.

Frank Kegley	**'Just-In-Time' Queries**	13	Article

In this article, Frank Kegley illustrates a technique where a query is constructed, used, and destroyed via Visual Basic for Applications code that executes during the lifetime of the form or report that uses it.

Peter Vogel	**No More Write-only Code**	16	Article

Peter Vogel takes a quick look at two topics that will help you create code that can be maintained: error handling and program documentation.

2002-10 Silver Collection

Garry Robinson **Access Passwords, Workgroups, and ADO** 1 Article

In his latest piece, Garry Robinson explores ADO connections, passwords, and how to open a secure database without ever logging into Access.

Peter Vogel **Getting Your Proposals Accepted** 3 Editorial

When talking to other developers, I often find that their biggest problem is getting management to accept that there is a better way of doing things. Interestingly enough, my Access friends tend to have the fewest problems in getting their managers and clients to buy into a new idea. I suspect that's because using Access substantially lowers the cost of implementing any new solution.

Russell Sinclair **Making Changes in Access Data Projects** 8 Article

In this article about an Access Data Project, Russell Sinclair discusses some techniques for making changes to your application during your development and expands on some of the properties of forms in ADPs. You'll also get a look at a valuable (and undocumented) tool for managing your changes.

Margriet Bruggeman **Select * From SharePoint Where db = 'Access'** 11 Article

One of the key things SharePoint Portal Server is known for is its enterprise scalable search. SharePoint Portal Server can be used to search through a wide variety different kinds of content sources. Nikander and Margriet Bruggeman explain how to search an Access database from SharePoint.

Nikander Bruggeman **Select * From SharePoint Where db = 'Access'** 11 Article

One of the key things SharePoint Portal Server is known for is its enterprise scalable search. SharePoint Portal Server can be used to search through a wide variety different kinds of content sources. Nikander and Margriet Bruggeman explain how to search an Access database from SharePoint.

Peter Vogel **Locking Code** 16 Article

Last month, Peter Vogel examined the issues around locking records and concluded that, most of the time, you don't want to lock your records. In this article, he reviews that discussion and then shows the code that you can use to avoid record locking.

Danny J. Lesandrini **Db Analysis for MS Access** 20 Review

The Microsoft database explorer window is simple and gets the job done, but have you ever wished it exposed more functionality? John Reid did more than just wish. In fact, he may have built the proverbial "better mousetrap" when it comes to managing your Microsoft Access database objects. See for yourself as Danny Lesandrini explores this new Access Add-In called Db Analysis.

2002-09 Silver Collection

Margriet Bruggeman **Meet SharePoint Portal Server.** 1 Article

You may have heard about SharePoint Portal Server and wondered what this .NET server could do for you and your company. Nikander and Margriet Bruggeman will help you get acquainted.

Peter Vogel **Access and .NET** 3 Editorial

What will .NET do to Access? Peter looks at VBA &Access in a .NET world & can ADO.NET and Access work together in this editorial.

Peter Vogel **Record Locking and Updating Efficiencies** 11 Article

Creating an effective Update statement in SQL can make all the difference in what data gets saved in a multi-user environment and what sort of performance you'll get from your application. Peter Vogel discusses record locking and SQL statements.

Christopher R. Weber **List Boxes, Access Bugs, and More** 16 Access Answers

In this jumbo-sized edition of Access Answers, Chris Weber has something for everyone. You'll find out about a subtle Access bug, some more obvious bugs, and how to avoid using edit masks (and why you'd want to).

2002-08 Silver Collection

Dennis Schumaker **Access Application Development Documentation** 1 Article

When it comes time to make a change to your program (and you'll have to change your program), good documentation can direct you to the areas to change and alert you to potential problems. If you have a bug to fix, effective documentation can help you solve the problem (without introducing new problems). Dennis Schumaker discusses the secrets behind creating useful documentation efficiently based on his company's real-world experience in delivering Access applications.

Peter Vogel **Access, Office, and .NET** 2 Editorial

The question that I get these days is "What is .NET going to do to Access?". Peter discusses this conundrum.

Russell Sinclair **Demystifying JOINs** 12 Article

In this month's instalment of Working SQL, Russell Sinclair explains the mysteries of the JOIN statement in SQL and how to use it with both Jet and SQL Server. first explain what the different types of JOINs are.

Danny J. Lesandrini **FMS Total Visual Code Tools 2002** 17 Review

If you've never been good about coding standards, or your good intentions are sometimes sacrificed when you're working in crunch mode, then you owe it to yourself to check out Total Visual Code Tools 2002, a great set of coding tools by FMS. Here, Danny Lesandrini walks you through an introduction.

Mike Gunderloy **Access Answers** 20 Access Answers

In this issue's column, Smart Access eXTRA eNewsletter editor Mike Gunderloy tackles some of the questions he's gotten from readers over the past several years.

2002-07 Silver Collection

Scott McManus **Taking Outlook and XML to Task** 1 Article

You can link your Outlook tasks to your Access database, thanks to XML. Garry Robinson and Scott McManus show how you can integrate project information in Access with Outlook tasks.

Garry Robinson **Taking Outlook and XML to Task** 1 Article

You can link your Outlook tasks to your Access database, thanks to XML. Garry Robinson and Scott McManus show how you can integrate project information in Access with Outlook tasks.

Peter Vogel **Not for Null** 2 Editorial

Peter writes ..Nulls give most database developers a lot of trouble. You can't compare Nulls to anything, for instance.

Mike Westcott **The Jet UserRoster** 11 Article

The Jet database engine isn't very forthcoming about its user connections, unless you know where to look. Mike Westcott shows you how to find out who's in.

Martin Reid **Martin Reid Jul-02 Article** 12 Article

Martin Reid takes you into the world of Access Data Projects and SQL Server. Using a simple application, he shows you how to leverage your Access skills to create views for your application. He then tackles the issues around ADP security that you'll need to know to make your views useful.

Danny J. Lesandrini **Visual Access XP** 17 Article

Microsoft Access is a two-fold blessing for programmers. In addition to being a fantastic development platform, its wide popularity as an office productivity tool helps to sustain a market for user data reporting utilities. Savvy developers know how to cash in on this opportunity by writing focused applications with a clear objective in mind. Does Visual Access XP meet this litmus test? Danny Lesandrini investigates.

Russell Sinclair **Exercising Options** 17 Article

In this month's installment of Working SQL, Russell Sinclair talks about optional parameters in SQL Server stored procedures, and how you can use them to do advanced searching of data.

Peter Vogel **Web Services for the Access Developer** 20 Article

The hot new technology is Web Services. What is it? Do you care? Does it matter within Access? Peter Vogel answers these questions and more.

Danny J. Lesandrini **Access ELF 2002** 22 Review

ELF 2002 is a tool that can translate English, human-readable requests into a language that Access can understand and parse. As Danny Lesandrini points out, it's a powerful idea. But does it work?

Peter Vogel **ADO and Subform Performance** 23 Access Answers

Peter Vogel answers some thorny questions about using ADO to update a view (you can't) and setting the RecordSource property of a subform dynamically to improve an application's performance.

		Page	Article Type
2002-06	Silver Collection		
Frank Kegley	**Creating and Using Data Access Pages**	1	Article

Although there are many ways to connect a database to the Web, they usually require some sort of specialized training. In this article, Frank Kegley shows you how to connect a database to the Web using Microsoft's Data Access Pages. While you'll see the power of data access pages, you'll also see some of their shortcomings compared to working natively in Access.

Peter Vogel	**Iron Rules**	4	Editorial

You should apply at least the first three rules of normalization to your database design in order to get the best design. Like any other rule, you must recognize when it applies and when it doesn't apply…

Nirmala Sekhar	**Smart Search with a SQL Back End.**	10	Article

No database application is complete without a comprehensive search facility. Nirmala Sekhar extends her search utility to harness the power of a SQL Server back end.

No database application is complete without a comprehensive search facility. Nirmala Sekhar extends her search utility to harness the power of a SQL Server back end.

Martin Reid	**Starting the Interface with Access Data Projects.**	12	Article

Martin Reid takes you into the world of Access Data Projects and SQL Server. Using a simple application, he shows you how to leverage your Access skills to create views for your application. He then tackles the issues around ADP security that you'll need to know to make your views useful.

Danny J. Lesandrini	**Visual Access XP Review**	17	Review

Microsoft Access is a two-fold blessing for programmers. In addition to being a fantastic development platform, its wide popularity as an office productivity tool helps to sustain a market for user data reporting utilities. Savvy developers know how to cash in on this opportunity by writing focused applications with a clear objective in mind. Does Visual Access XP meet this litmus test? Danny Lesandrini investigates.

Peter Vogel	**ADO and Subform Performance.**	21	Access Answers

Peter Vogel answers some thorny questions about using ADO to update a view (you can't) and setting the RecordSource property of a subform dynamically to improve an application's performance.

Renate Strub	**Separate Your Data!**	23	Smart Tip

Renate Strub

2002-05 Silver Collection

Danny J. Lesandrini **Create XML Web Reports From Access 2002** 1 Article

Transforming XML data with XSL is a great way to deliver formatted content to the Web. Although creating XSL stylesheets can be daunting for the initiated, the new ExportXML method in Access 2002 makes it easy to publish even the most complicated reports. Danny Lesandrini shows how you can 'push' or 'pull' your Access reports to or from the Internet.

Peter Vogel **The Problem with Success** 2 Editorial

Peter writes … The worst thing that can happen to you when you try something new is that you'll succeed. The problem with success is that it normally goes unexamined. When something that we do actually works, we tend to take that as the natural outcome of our wonderfulness and assume that we've discovered whatever we needed to know about carrying out this task. When we approach the next task, we bring along the lessons that we haven't really learned.

Garry Robinson **Microsoft Access Forms—All Class** 9 Article

If object-oriented development seems foreign to you, it shouldn't. All forms are defined in class modules, and all executing forms are objects. Garry Robinson shows how to take advantage of this to create classy forms.

Martin Reid **Matching Data for Analysis** 14 Article

In this article, Rickard Olsson shows how to compare rows in SQL by loading the desired data into two tables for easy comparison. In fact, he shows two different methods and tries to figure out which method will give the best performance.

Rickard Olsson **Starting the Interface with Access Data Projects - 2** 18 Article

This month, Martin Reid shows you how to build the user interface to an Access Data Project. You'll see how easy it is to create an Access form that's bound to a stored procedure without giving up the benefits of parameters.

2002-04 Silver Collection

Doug Den Hoed **Making History** 1 Article

Doug Den Hoed is back with another new technology invention. This time, he introduces his technique to capture multiple on-demand 'history time slices' of an application, allowing you to instantly flip back in time and view data from 'back then.' Doug exploits it all with some interesting tricks to see trends over time.

Peter Vogel **Toys, Changes, and Skills** 2 Editorial

I love tools (read: toys). They make me more productive, increase the quality of the work that I do, and let me play with my computer. A complete win. The only problem with tools is upgrading enough to use them. I'm fighting with that now. For one reason or another, I've added a whole lot of new tools to my life.

Doug Den Hoed **Resize-Recalc** 10 Article

So how much of a wizard are you? In 'Stump the Expert,' we'll describe an Access bug but omit the solution. Adventurous readers are invited to download a working example of the bug from www.smartaccessnewsletter.com and try to solve it. When you give up, you're welcome to look at the author's answer in the Download file. Of course, if you figure it out, you won't have to look...

Martin Reid **An Access Data Project: Designing the App** 11 Article

Martin Reid takes you further into the world of Access Data Projects and SQL Server. Using a simple application, Martin shows you how to leverage the Access skills that you already hold to get a SQL Server database up and running. And nothing takes more than four steps.

Danny J. Lesandrini **SPEED Ferret 4.0** 15 Review

What's in your toolbox? There was a time, not that long ago, when the only third-party tool Danny Lesandrini used on a regular basis was SPEED Ferret 3.0, a well-known global search-and-replace add-in for Access 97. Over the years, he's picked up a few others, but SPEED Ferret is still the first and most important Access tool he installs when reloading his development box. How does version 4.0, released last year, compare with the previous version? Does SPEED Ferret 4.0 belong in your toolbox? Read on.

Danny J. Lesandrini **FMS Total Access Speller 2002** 18 Review

You only get one chance to make a good first impression. What first impression do your Microsoft Access applications give? No matter how clever your code, when a client sees misspelled words on forms and reports, your user interface screams, 'Loser!' Spell-checking object properties in Access can be an error-prone manual process, unless you're using Total Access Speller 2002 from FMS. Danny Lesandrini takes it for a test drive.

Peter Vogel **AutoLookup and Format in Many Forms** 21 Access Answers

Peter Vogel takes a look at a problem with Access Data Projects in Access 2002 and Formats

2002-03 Silver Collection

Martin Reid **Getting Started with Access Data Projects** 1 Article

This is the first in a series of articles that will take you into the world of Access Data Projects and SQL Server. Using a simple application, Martin Reid shows you how to leverage the Access skills that you already hold to get a SQL Server database application up and running.

Peter Vogel **It's Time** 2 Editorial

There's one question that I get asked a lot when I'm working with Access developers: I call it "The Question."

Peter Vogel **Access Efficiency.** 7 Article

Here, Peter Vogel looks at the single most important change that you can make to your applications to make them run faster. It's also the one mistake that gets made the most often.

Dennis Schumaker **User Interface Standards-Reports** 11 Article

Many of what you think of as reports probably aren't reports to users-which makes life difficult for both of you. Dennis Schumaker shows how to create reports that make sense to your users, along with the code to implement those reports within a set of standards.

Danny J. Lesandrini **Access 2002 Developer's Handbook** 18 Review

The Access Developer's Handbook, in all of its versions, is legendary. Danny Lesandrini takes a look at the latest version and let's you know why you need it.

Peter Vogel **Excel to Access with AccessLinks** 21 Article

Excel has an add-in that lets you link an Access database to an Excel spreadsheet with a few mouse clicks. With a basic connection established, you can build as complex a front end as you want. Peter Vogel shows you how.

Peter Linzerts **Complex Report Selection.** 23 Smart Tip

Complex Report Selection.

2002-02 Silver Collection

Ann Ziegler **Auto-Generated Update SQL** 1 Article

Retrieving data isn't all that you can do with generated SQL statements. Ann Ziegler shows how to create an update-and-append statement on the fly.

Peter Vogel **Boys and Their Toys** 2 Editorial

I just discovered two new toys, and they're so neat that I can't wait to tell people about them. Before going further, I should admit that I hate doing these kinds of articles. No sooner do I trot these tools out than I get a dozen e-mails explaining to me how 1) there are much better tools available, and 2) they're all much cheaper than the ones that I bought.

Peter Vogel **Working SQL: Efficient SQL** 7 Article

In the latest edition of the "Working SQL" column, Peter Vogel looks at some of the general issues around creating SQL queries that run quickly.

David Cornelius **Shrink-Wrapped or Do-it-yourself Queries** 11 Article

David Cornelius explains how to use multiple queries, both canned and custom-built, to build an application using only one form and a report. You can empower your users to become more productive and efficient.

Burton Roberts **Temporary Tables, Table Variables, and Table-Valued Functions in SQL Server** 12 Article

In this article, Burton Roberts shows how to use SQL Server's temporary tables in your Access Data Projects. With that out of the way, he'll introduce two powerful new features of SQL Server 2000.

Stuart Kinnear **Unit Testing and Memory Leaks** 13 Article

Stuart Kinnear introduces his problem with an unpleasant call from a client about one of his programs. He also shows how automating your test processes can prevent these errors from reaching your users.

Christopher R. Weber **Cool Tricks for the Sophisticated Developer** 16 Access Answers

This month, Chris Weber addresses questions from real-life, Access training seminar attendees about report totals, splash screens, trapping keystrokes, managing control widths, when there's more in a memo than meets the eye, triple state check boxes, tables for one, and using the new Dirty event. The answers aren't always obvious, especially to the new generation of Access users.

Martin Reid **Starting the Interface with Access Data Projects** 18 Article

This month, Martin Reid shows you how to build your user interface to an Access Data Project. You'll see how easy it is to create an Access form that's bound to a stored procedure without giving up the benefits of parameters.

		Page	Article Type
2002-01	Silver Collection		
Danny J. Lesandrini	**Put XML to Use in Access 2002**	1	Article
You've heard that XML is easy to import and export from Access 2002, but you have yet to come up with a good use for it. Danny Lesandrini solves two problems with Access 2002's XML support: dynamic file linking			
Peter Vogel	**Tools**	4	Editorial
Over the years, I've picked up a bunch of skills that I use when creating applications. I also try to keep my toolset as small as possible. So what do I think is the minimum set of skills, tools, and technologies that you need to build applications in the new millennium? I'm glad you asked says Peter.			
Taha Kass-Hout	**Duplicate Data Entry for Access**	9	Article
Redundant data is bad, but double data entry can be good. Garry Robinson shows you how and why.			
Garry Robinson	**Duplicate Data Entry for Access**	9	Article
Redundant data is bad, but double data entry can be good. Garry Robinson shows you how and why.			
Burton Roberts	**Burton' Robert's Article**	12	Article
In this article, Burton Roberts shows how to use SQL Server's temporary tables in your Access Data Projects. With that out of the way, he'll introduce two powerful new features of SQL Server 2000.			
Mike Westcott	**Working SQL: Ordered Calculations with SQL**	15	Article
In this article, Mike Westcott shows how to use SQL to solve problems with counter columns, running sums, and all things ordered by using self-joins. Mike also demonstrates the power and danger of incorporating VBA into your queries.			
In this article, Mike Westcott shows how to use SQL to solve problems with counter columns, running sums, and all things ordered by using self-joins. Mike also demonstrates the power and danger of incorporating VBA into your queries.			
David Moss	**I'll Be Late at the Office Tonight**	18	Article
You know how it is-you've been in a long-term relationship, your eye starts to wander... David Moss had a one-month stand with Sun's StarOffice. Microsoft Access has now allowed him home again. If you, your boss, or your clients are thinking about moving from Access to StarOffice, you should read this first.			
2001-12	Silver Collection		
Garry Robinson	**Saving Reports is a Snap**	1	Article
In this article, Garry Robinson presents a routine that will allow you to save Access reports directly into Snapshot format.			
Peter Vogel	**Jargon**	4	Editorial
Peter writes … "I'm not opposed to using jargon. Among peers, jargon actually facilitates communication. " and "while jargon makes experts more efficient, jargon gets in the way of talking to people who don't know the words."			
Andy Baron	**New List-Filling Options in Access 2002**	8	Article
Powerful list and combo boxes have always been an important part of Access. With Access 2002, they acquire even more power, as Andy Baron shows in this article.			
Peter Vogel	**Working SQL: Consecutive Values**	13	Article
Sometimes it's not enough to know that the data is there. Sometimes you have to know what the data's neighbors are. Peter Vogel looks at SQL solutions for finding consecutive values in your data while providing a strategy for finding SQL-based solutions.			
Dennis Schumaker	**User Interface Standards for Forms**	17	Article
User interface standards are critical for both programmer and end-user productivity. An important part of any application is Application Maintenance Forms—and Dennis Schumaker shows the strategy and the code you need to create them.			

		Page	Article Type
2001-11	**Silver Collection**		
Dennis Schumaker	**Implementing Business Process Forms**	1	Article
Dennis Schumaker discusses his company's standards for the forms that are the core of any business application. More importantly, he also shows you the code that makes these user interfaces work.			
Peter Vogel	**ADO.NET Revolution: DataAdapter**	9	Article
Following up on Rob Macdonald's article on how ADO.NET has grown from ADO, Peter Vogel looks at how ADO.NET is different from the ADO that you know.			
Danny J. Lesandrini	**FMS Total Access Analyzer 2000**	13	Review
How well do you know your own Microsoft Access database applications? Over time, even simple projects collect unused objects, hidden errors, and performance bottlenecks. FMS Inc. has always been at the forefront, arming developers with analyzer tools to simplify application problem-solving and documentation. Join Danny Lesandrini as he explores the features of its latest release.			
Russell Sinclair	**PivotCharts in Access XP**	15	Article
In this month's article, Russell Sinclair expands on his introduction to PivotTables and PivotCharts by talking about creating PivotCharts in Access 2002.			
David Cornelius	**Going from Horizontal to Vertical**	19	Article
Not every database is normalized or in a format that supports easy reporting. David Cornelius explains how to transform non-first normal form records into a format that you can report on. By using this technique, reporting becomes simpler and less cumbersome for the user.			
Steve Backman	**Leave Me Open**	23	Smart Tip
Leave Me Open			
2001-10	**Silver Collection**		
Mike Gunderloy	**Access Subquery Techniques**	1	Article
Even some experienced Access developers shy away from writing SQL directly. That's a shame, because, unless you're willing to write SQL, you can't use subqueries, which are a powerful tool for solving some especially thorny data retrieval problems. In this article, Mike Gunderloy introduces subqueries and shows how you can use them in Access.			
Nirmala Sekhar	**Smart Search without the Hassles**	6	Article
No database application is complete without a comprehensive search facility. There are many methods of incorporating search routines in a form or a query. In this article, Nirmala Sekhar demonstrates a simple method of searching your data based on a given list of relevant fields. The example can be easily used in your database with very few changes.			
Garry Robinson	**Remote Queries in Access**	9	Article
If you've split your database into two MDB files, there's a simple way to speed up your application. This month, Garry Robinson shows you how.			
David Moss	**Prometheus Unbound**	14	Article
If you're thinking of moving to a client/sever database, you can do it in Access. However, if you're going to get the performance that you need, then you'll need to change the way that you do things. David Moss shows how to replace the built-in functionality with some reusable code.			
Danny J. Lesandrini	**Access 2002 Developer's Handbook**	18	Review
The Access Developer's Handbook, in all of its versions, is legendary. Danny Lesandrini takes a look at the latest version and let's you know why you need it.			
Russell Sinclair	**PivotTables in Access XP**	19	Article
Russell Sinclair introduces an important new feature of Access 2002-the ability to summarize data using PivotTables.			
Adina Reeve	**Automating Access 2000 from Visual Basic: Set the UserControl When Upgrading**	22	Article
Automating Access 2000 from Visual Basic: Set the UserControl When Upgrading			

2001-09 Silver Collection

Dennis Schumaker **User Interface Standards** 1 Article

In this article, Dennis Schumaker discusses the importance of user interface standards for both programmer and end-user productivity. As a case study, Dennis discusses when to use the navigation methods available to the Access programmer and shows how to implement the most useful ones.

Peter Vogel **Eyewitness Testimony** 2 Editorial

Everyone tells you how important it is to know the business requirements. And, presumably, you find out what the business requirements are by talking to your business users. That's all well and good, except no one tells you how unreliable your users are…

Tobi Hoffman **Animation Using Access?** 12 Article

Access is for data, so why use it for cartoons? Basically, because it can be done and it's fun. Still, you can add some flash to your applications with these techniques, as Tobi Hoffman explains.

Peter Vogel **ADO and Access 2002** 17 Article

Access 2002 moves a long way toward the full integration of ADO into Access. Peter Vogel looks at the changes and what you can take advantage of when working with both Jet and Access Data Projects.

Christopher R. Weber **Excellent Labels** 20 Article

This month, Christopher Weber comes back with a second set of Access answers, showing how to create vertical labels and getting Size to Fit Form to work for your users.

Doug Den Hoed **Dynamic Grouping in Reports** 22 Smart Tip

Dynamic Grouping in Reports

2001-08 Silver Collection

Keith Bombard **Query Lists** 1 Article

In this article, Keith Bombard shows off a routine that can reduce the time it takes to create a form to manage your update tables. This general-purpose routine can be used with any small table for editing, updating, adding, and deleting records.

Peter Vogel **In My Craft or Sullen Art** 2 Editorial

When writers get desperate, they can always fall back on the "unrelated-work-of-art" ploy. What you do is take some book that you've been reading and write about how it relates to the real topic. Read more and see how Peter weaves this into an editorial on Access.

Rob MacDonald **ADO.NET for ADO Developers** 9 Article

Microsoft's .NET initiative has provided yet another opportunity to overhaul data access. In this article, Rob MacDonald compares ADO.NET to what's already being called classic ADO, and explains some of the reasons for the changes in ADO.NET, as well as some of its great new features.

Peter Vogel **Access 2002 and XML** 12 Article

You've heard about XML and so has Microsoft. The latest version of Microsoft Office, Office XP, has all of its applications XML-enabled so that they can share data (well, almost all and almost share). Peter Vogel shows you how this works in Access.

Christopher R. Weber **Subforms to Security** 18 Article

This month, Christopher Weber runs through questions that range from subforms to transparently joining secured workgroups.

2001-07 Silver Collection

Mark Davis **Automated Excel Pivot Reports from Access** 1 Article

Excel pivot reports are dynamic and easy to use and have advantages over Access reports, including allowing end users more flexibility in their reporting capabilities. In this article, Mark Davis shows how to automate the creation of an Excel pivot report based on an Access data table, using straightforward VBA code.

Peter Vogel **Connections** 4 Editorial

Despite the relationship between e-mail and all of the other things that I do, for many years I resisted using a personal information manager on my desktop computer.

Mike Gunderloy **Access 2002 Data Projects for Developers** 8 Article

Access data projects were new in Access 2000, and they were clearly version 1 technology: interesting, but not polished. The combination of Access 2002 and SQL Server 2000 makes ADPs a much more reasonable choice for SQL Server front-end development in Access. In this article, Mike Gunderloy looks at some of the new goodies that this combination offers to developers.

Keith Bombard **Send Your Files Anywhere** 12 Article

Keith Bombard shows you how to create a fully automated system for file transmission across the Internet using just Access and Outlook.

Hugh Manning **Multi-Select List Box Parser** 16 Article

Hugh Manning is the chief consultant for Manning Professional Services, Inc., based in Palm Harbor, FL. Hugh has been designing database applications for more than 12 years for a variety of industries.

Doug Den Hoed **Show Multiple Y-Axes with MS Graph** 18 Article

Doug Den Hoed pushes the envelope in MS Graph again, this time with his technique to graph multiple Y-axes.

2001-06 Silver Collection

Mike Gunderloy **Access 2002 for Developers** 1 Article

Microsoft's marketing spin for Office XP seems to be "easier than ever to use." While task panes and the demise of Clippit might be interesting to new users, they're hardly compelling features for serious developers. In this article, Mike Gunderloy digs into the guts of Access 2002 to find out what it has to offer for people who are serious about coding.

Christopher R. Weber **Access at Your Service** 9 Article

Since Jet is a file server application, an Access application spends much of its time hauling data down the network wire to be processed on your computer. Chris Weber shows how you can make Access process action queries on your server, tripling your performance in some cases.

Doug Den Hoed **Common-Sense Code Control** 13 Article

If you work on an Access application with multiple developers, or if you support several applications, you've undoubtedly considered this issue: How do I control my source code? This month, Doug Den Hoed shares some practical conventions that his teams use to manage their source code across multiple client applications.

Peter Vogel **The Third Manifesto** 16 Article

In this article, Peter Vogel looks at a book by two of the gurus of relational database design, where they discuss the essence of the relational database theory, its relationship with object-oriented databases, and its possible future.

Tobi Hoffman **War Stories: Autonumber, Archiving, and Maternity Leaves** 18 Article

Come with Tobi Hoffman to track down an elusive bug. How soon can you spot the problem? And how would you fix it? Tobi shows the kinds of problems that can occur when you use Autonumbers.

John Durbin **Simple Compact and Repair** 20 Smart Tip

Simple Compact and Repair

Mark Miller **SQL Server Permissions** 20 Smart Tip

SQL Server Permissions

2001-05 Silver Collection

Garry Robinson **Balloons: More Than Just Hot Air** 1 Article

The Office Assistant is annoying and aggravating but that doesn't mean you can't make it into something useful. Garry Robinson shows how to use Balloon Help to improve the way that your application interacts with your users, from complicated error-checking to software upgrades.

Peter Vogel **Peter Vogel on Access 2002 for Developers** 1 Article

Microsoft's marketing spin for Office XP seems to be "easier than ever to use." While taskpanes and the demise of Clippit might be interesting to new users, they're hardly compelling features for serious developers. In this article, Mike Gunderloy digs into the guts of Access 2002 to find out what it has to offer for people who are serious about coding.

Peter Vogel **Changes** 4 Editorial

Peter writes … HERE are a number of technology changes in the wind for Access developers, and they can be summed up in two phrases: ADO.NET and Access 2002. It's important to remember that none of these technologies make your current tools obsolete. You don't have to upgrade to Access 2002, and you don't have to install ADO.NET. That might not sound like the typical advice from the editor of a technology-driven newsletter. However, technology should be your servant, not your master.

Tony Naylon **Splitting up Data** 9 Article

Anthony Naylon suggests a very simple way of speeding up data transfer between a client Access database (containing queries, forms, reports, macros, and modules) and a server Access database (containing only tables) via Jet.

Rich Gorvin **Sophisticated Reports: Multiple Columns and Subreports** 10 Article

Reports can be very frustrating at times. Rich Gorvin offers solutions to two problems that can make reports look untidy: subreports that appear near the end of a page without even the first line of data on the same page, and reports formatted in columns that have the Report Footer on a following page.

Stuart Kinnear **Resize With Class** 13 Article

In this article, Stuart Kinnear completes his review of the Access form resizer tools by taking a free version through his test suite.

Keith Bombard **Dual Control** 18 Article

In this article, Keith Bombard shows you how to implement dual control in Access: to make critical operations more secure by ensuring that more than one person must approve a task.

Peter Vogel **The ADO Stream Object** 20 Article

Following up his article on the latest of the ADO objects, Peter Vogel discusses the Stream object. This useful object mimics a sequential text file.

2001-04 Silver Collection

Burton Roberts **Improving on VBA with Transact-SQL** 1 Article

In this article, Burton Roberts demonstrates some of the advantages of writing procedures for SQL Server stored procedures and functions instead of VBA functions and subs.

Russell Sinclair **A Special Issue: Moving to SQL Server** 4 Editorial

Russell Sinclair writes "When I did my first migration from Access to SQL Server a few years ago, I attempted to do a simple migration. I thought that if I just migrated the tables and data to SQL Server and linked the tables into my Access database, all would be well."

Andy Baron **SQL Server Security for the Access Developer** 8 Article

There's a lot to learn when working with SQL Server security from an Access application. In this article, Mary Chipman and Andy Baron introduce some basic SQL Server security concepts and discuss the choices you have when implementing SQL Server security in your Access-SQL Server application.

Mary Chipman **SQL Server Security for the Access Developer** 8 Article

There's a lot to learn when working with SQL Server security from an Access application. In this article, Mary Chipman and Andy Baron introduce some basic SQL Server security concepts and discuss the choices you have when implementing SQL Server security in your Access-SQL Server application.

Russell Sinclair **Choosing the Right Data Source** 17 Article

Choosing between views and stored procedures in order to access SQL Server data can be confusing. In this article, Russell Sinclair covers the information you need in order to make the right choice.

Mike Gunderloy **Using Forms in ADPs: What You Need to Know** 19 Article

With Access 2000, Microsoft made some major changes to its venerable database. One of these changes was the addition of Access Data Projects (ADPs), which use SQL Server instead of Jet as their database engine. At first glance, the user interface of ADPs looks familiar. However, if you dig a bit deeper, you'll find that there are many important differences. In this article, Mike Gunderloy gives you a rundown of the key new features that you need to understand in order to make effective use of forms in ADPs.

2001-03 Silver Collection

Keith Bombard **An Access E-mail Application** 1 Article

Adding an e-mail facility to your Access application is a convenient way to communicate critical data to multiple users, while at the same time producing a trail linked to key records in your database. Keith Bombard shows you how.

Peter Vogel **We Get Mail** 2 Editorial

I get a certain amount of mail every month that patiently tries to educate me and yes I learn a lot from other experts writes Peter.

Rich Gorvin **The Continuous Line Conundrum** 12 Article

Invoices frequently have columns for various details and values. How can you make an invoice in Access that's as smart-looking as a word-processed invoice? The main problem is the age-old one of vertical lines on reports if a report section grows, do the lines also grow to the same height? Rich Gorvin offers a solution.

George Esser **Upsizing Access to Oracle** 16 Article

In addition to showing you how to convert your Access prototypes into Oracle systems, George Esser shows how your Access skills translate into Oracle.

		Page	Article Type
2001-02	Silver Collection		
Michael Kaplan	**You Can Do That with Datasheets?**	1	Article

Everyone who uses datasheets knows they're powerful, but very few people know all of the things you can do with them. Michael Kaplan pulls out a handful of tricks from the unlocked Access 97 wizards that can help you really get the best of these useful items.

Peter Vogel	**.NET: Nothin' New**	4	Editorial

Microsoft is betting the farm on its .NET initiative. As a result, one of the questions on Access developers' minds is, "How does .NET affect Access?" I don't, of course, know the answer, but I can tell you what I think is going to happen.

Russell Sinclair	**Everything About AutoNumbers**	10	Article

AutoNumber and identity fields have some benefits and some costs. In this article, Russell Sinclair covers just about everything you can do to manage AutoNumbers in ADO, ADOx, and DAO. Since most AutoNumber fields are used as primary keys, this is the information you need to manage your tables.

Peter Vogel	**Accessing Records**	14	Article

In this article, Peter Vogel looks at one of the newer features in ADO: the Record object. Peter outlines the object's future and shows how you can use it right now from your Access application to work with files over the Internet.

Doug Den Hoed	**Build Gantt Charts with MS Graph**	18	Article

The MS Graph engine that powers charts in Access and Excel is extremely flexible, but it often requires some tinkering. Doug Den Hoed shares his techniques for building Gantt charts, and he reveals some tricks to help you make your charts look more professional.

2001-01	Silver Collection		
Doug Den Hoed	**Temporary Tables with No Bloat**	1	Article

Temporary tables are great for extending query functionality, storing transient data, and solving concurrency issues. Unfortunately, using a linked Jet table to store that data will cause database bloat. This month, Doug Den Hoed shares his technique for creating bloatless CSV temp tables on the fly.

Peter Vogel	**Access Applications**	4	Editorial

One thing that I keep being asked to do is review Access applications that developers are preparing to market commercially. I've seen three in the past three months, and they've all been very interesting, ranging from sophisticated service billing systems to specialized legal office management. Peter discusses this area of Access commerce.

Keith Bombard	**User-Driven Menus**	10	Article

If you've ever worked with Access to develop large, multi-user databases with thousands of objects, then you'll want to think about limiting user access to those objects. In this article, Keith Bombard shows you a simple and proven technique to manage access using user-driven menus.

Peter Vogel	**Everything Doesn't Happen at Once: Loosely Coupled Events**	13	Article

If you're running Access on a Windows 2000 computer, you can take advantage of COM+ to build more sophisticated applications. Peter Vogel looks at using Loosely Coupled Events to create applications that run asynchronously.

Andy Baron	**Access Answers: Data Projects and SQL Server**	17	Article

This month, Andy Baron returns with a variety of answers that focus on issues related to using Access with SQL Server.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type
2000-12	**Silver Collection**		
Doug Den Hoed	**Graph to GIFs and Beyond**	1	Article

Although it's not listed in the IntelliSense dropdown list, MS Graph supports an Export method that lets you save your charts to GIF format. Doug Den Hoed shows you the benefits of exporting your chart and presents an interesting twist using Access to create an MS PowerPoint slideshow that animates your charts.

Peter Vogel	**Faith**	4	Editorial

Peter doesn't like stereotypes but this is one that holds true most of the time "Managers are always committed to the next system that's going in. The next system is always going to solve all of their problems (make a ton of money, give the company a sustainable competitive advantage, get them a date on Saturday night, and so forth). You have to admire that kind of faith—none of the previous systems they've implemented has ever done all that, yet they keep on implementing new systems and hoping for heaven."

Stuart Kinnear	**Everything About Resizing Controls**	8	Article

You develop your application with a specific font and screen resolution, but your application will be expected to operate in a world of font and screen variation. Stuart Kinnear provides a complete look at the three major third-party solutions. (Splitter controls).

Michael Kaplan	**If You're Turkish, Say "I": Handling International Bugs**	16	Article

If you ever have to deal with applications that run with a different locale setting than North America, you do have to keep language issues in mind. Michael Kaplan discusses some DAO-related problems that you can expect and how to deal with them.

Peter Vogel	**Access Answers: System Tables, Mixing Versions, and SQL**	18	Article

Peter Vogel answers questions about retrieving table names with queries, using two versions of Jet on the same computer, giving users a File Open dialog box, and taking advantage of Access's version of SQL.

Steve Sarre	**ListBox Bug in Access 97**	20	Smart Tip

ListBox Bug in Access 97

Christopher R. Weber	**Tip: Warning: Boxes and Control Tips**	20	Smart Tip

Tip: Warning: Boxes and Control Tips

Christopher R. Weber	**Closing All Forms the Easy Way**	22	Smart Tip

Closing All Forms the Easy Way

2000-11	**Silver Collection**		
Stuart Kinnear	**One Size Fits All: Controlling Your Form's Size**	6	Article

Your users can create any combination of screen resolution and font size. How will your application react? Stuart Kinnear discusses a solution that allows your application to hang on to its format as screen resolutions change.

Chris Barker	**Intelligent Combo Boxes**	12	Article

What can you do to improve the accuracy of data-entry? With only a few lines of code, you can catch one of the most common data-entry errors in combo boxes. In this article, Chris Barker shows how this can be done.

David Irvine	**An Access Application: Learn to Use "Relationship" and "Normal" in the Same Sentence!**	15	Article

David Irvine returns with his series on Access Development to step back a bit and discuss some of the underlying concepts of database design. David applies a system analyst's approach to data design that you might find more useful than some of the more abstract methodologies currently in use.

David Irvine	**Death on the Highway: Surrogate and Primary Keys**	16	Sidebar

A significant problem can occur when an arbitrary key like an autonumber is used without defining a primary key on the data itself.

Steve Thompson	**Supporting Reuse with Microbus's Alice**	19	Review

Microbus's Alice 98 v1.4 for Access 97 provides an integrated interface to locate and import Access objects from any remote Access database. Steve Thompson takes Alice out for a tour and lets you know how the tool performs.

		Page	Article Type
2000-10	Silver Collection		
Garry Robinson	**Create an eBook from Access Data**	1	Article

With Access you aren't restricted to presenting information in reports or forms. In this article, Garry Robinson shows how to convert Access data into Microsoft's HTML Help format and distribute a report as an electronic book.

Peter Vogel	**X-Books**	2	Editorial

Peter discusses the differences between p-books and e-books

Helen Feddema	**Get Your Access Data Into Outlook**	9	Article

You can use DAO to export your Access data to the most commonly used Outlook items: Contacts, Appointments, Tasks, Mail Messages, Notes, and Journal items. Helen Feddema shows how in this article.

Doug Den Hoed	**Taming the Treeview Control**	14	Article

Treeviews are a common (and powerful) tool for creating Windows User Interfaces. Unfortunately, developing with the Treeview control is neither intuitive, nor easy. Doug Den Hoed provides a module that you can reuse to quickly add rich Treeview functionality to your own applications, including a form that your users can play with to create their own Treeviews on the fly!

Stephanie Hudson	**Expanding and Contracting Forms**	18	Article

Building an effective user interface can be challenging, but it's also extremely rewarding when a few lines of code enhance the intelligence of the application. In this article, Stephanie Hudson and Rick Jones show you how a utility lets your forms expand or contract at the click of a button.

Rick Jones	**Expanding and Contracting Forms**	18	Article

Building an effective user interface can be challenging, but it's also extremely rewarding when a few lines of code enhance the intelligence of the application. In this article, Stephanie Hudson and Rick Jones show you how a utility lets your forms expand or contract at the click of a button.

2000-09	Silver Collection		
Burton Roberts	**Temporary Tables and Access Data Projects**	1	Article

Yes, Virginia, there are no QueryDefs in Access Data Projects, but there are temporary tables, and you can use them instead.

Peter Vogel	**Bad News**	4	Editorial

Delivering bad news is a good thing says Peter. In our business, we give bad news all of the time, mostly about how the current project is going to: a) come in late; b) cost more; or c) all of the above. In some organizations, a "kill the messenger" attitude actively discourages staff from bringing bad news to either managers or users.

Burton Roberts	**An ADO Command Factory for Stored Procedures**	8	Article

There are some technical and bureaucratic obstacles to using ADO command objects. Since using stored procedures can make a tremendous difference to your Access application, Burton Roberts supplies a simple way to get around the first problem.

Michael Kaplan	**Accessing Exchange: Delving a Little Bit Deeper into the Jet 4.0 IISAM**	11	Article

In this article, Michael Kaplan returns to the MAPI IISAM to show you how to access data from Exchange as if you were using any Access table.

Peter Vogel	**Access and ADO: A Troubled Marriage**	18	Article

While you can use ADO from any version of Access from 95 on, Access 2000 really began the process of combining the two. Peter Vogel explores what you can (and can't) do with ADO from Access 2000.

		Page	Article Type
2000-08	Silver Collection		
Peter Vogel	**Advanced ADO**	1	Article

ADO offers you a number of ways to do everything. In this article, Peter Vogel reviews the best way to connect to a database, when to use the Command and Recordset objects, and how to fine-tune your Connection and recordset objects.

Peter Vogel	**It's not a Database!**	3	Editorial

Access is not a database. Access is a tool for creating front ends for databases writes Peter in his editorial.

Hakan Altinisik	**A User Friendly Search Utility**	8	Article

A well-designed database gives users access to data with minimal effort. In this article, Hakan Altinisik demonstrates how to design a search utility that's effective, easy to use, and flexible.

Michael Kaplan	**The Jet 4.0 Exchange/Outlook IISAM**	12	Article

Microsoft's security patch to help avoid e-mail viruses causes mailmerge and other applications to break. Jet comes to the rescue with its ability to treat Exchange mail data like a Jet table. Michael Kaplan takes you under the hood to show you how Jet connects to MAPI in Access 2000.

Garry Robinson	**Data PRO! Renovator**	18	Article

Change is a fact of life. One of the hardest things to change is the structure of your Access databases. Garry Robinson reviews SSW Data PRO! Renovator, a tool to help you convert an existing database to a new format.

2000-07	Silver Collection		
Cindy Meister	**More on the Report From Hell**	1	Article

Here's the high-end information on using Word to create complex reports. It's not enough to know how to pass data to Word and format it. Cindy Meister provides what you need to know to create everything from simple reports with special formatting to double-sided pages ready to be bound into a book.

Peter Vogel	**Plus Ca Change…**	3	Editorial

Peter laments ..."The more things change, the more things remain the same." Or, to put it another way, my mother-in-law is on the Internet. She's still my mother-inlaw, but now she sends e-mail. Every day."

Steve Thompson	**Polyglot Product Review**	10	Article

Steve Thompson's back with a review of a tool to help you convert your Access application to a different language.

Stu Alderman	**What's in a Table?**	16	Article

Stu Alderman explores the structure of your Access database and discusses the relationship between Access objects and System tables.

Peter Vogel	**Benchmarking and Intranets**	19	Access World News

Peter Vogel weighs in on the choice between linked tables vs. stored procedures, and managing the retrieval of large recordsets on your Intranet.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

2000-06 Silver Collection

Garry Robinson **Explore Your Data with Subdatasheets** 1 Article

Garry Robinson discusses the strategy that his company follows when producing custom software for his clients. Access 2000's subdatasheets have an important role to play in that strategy.

Peter Vogel **Access 2000: An Opinion** 3 Editorial

I occasionally get asked if developers should upgrade to Access 2000. I always respond with a resounding "Yes, developers should upgrade to Access 2000!" However, the next question, "Should I be upgrading my clients to Access 2000?" is more difficult to answer.

Cindy Meister **The Exists Property** 5 Sidebar

The Exists Property

Cindy Meister **Aligning Text in the Header/Footer** 6 Sidebar

Aligning Text in the Header/Footer

Where am I?

Burton Roberts **Using Stored Procedures in ADPs** 10 Article

To get the most out of Access Data Projects, you must use stored procedures. But trying to use them for some of the most common tasks isn't covered in the documentation. Burton Roberts shows you how to use some of ADO's features to link stored procedures to combo boxes and forms.

Steve Thompson **National Language Support** 10 Sidebar

National Language Support

Burton Roberts **Creating Stored Procedures** 11 Sidebar

Creating Stored Procedures

Michael Kaplan **Working in the Shadow of Microsoft** 14 Article

Making a living as an independent consultant can be difficult enough, but it can be a lot more difficult when you have strong opinions and no problem sharing them. Michael Kaplan discusses what it's like for him to balance the many issues that affect the life of a software design engineer
and consultant.

Mark Davis **Querying the Database** 16 Article

Once you have a lot of data, you're going to have to move beyond Jet. Mark Davis shows how to get the most out of your Access application when your back-end database is Oracle.

Mark Davis **Five Tips for High Performance Oracle Queries** 17 Sidebar

Five Tips for High Performance Oracle Queries

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type
2000-05	Silver Collection		
Mark Davis	**Access to Oracle: Loading the Database**	1	Article

Access is a great front end for building client-sever applications with many back-end database packages. This article focuses on getting your data into an Oracle database server so that you can use it from Access. The technique that Mark Davis outlines apply to any client/sever Access project.

Peter Vogel **Whining** 3 Editorial

Peter is in need of some coding her writes … There's nothing more pathetic than a code junkie in withdrawal. Jan woke up last night and I was standing at our dresser, staring into the mirror and typing on her jewelry case. Jolt isn't helping. It might be time for a stale pizza intervention.

Doug Den Hoed **Taking Back the Power with the Access Runtime** 10 Article

In the full version of Access, you can sort your datasheet by right-mouse-clicking on a column. But in the runtime version of Access, that capability is gone. Dough Den Hoed provides a function that lets users sort datasheet columns by double-clicking the column headers, just as with Outlook, Windows Explorer, and the File Open Dialog. On the way, you'll learn about some form properties you probably aren't familiar with.

Michael Kaplan **Sort in Any Language** 14 Article

Access 2000 and Jet 4.0 have made some incredible studies toward applications that can support any number of languages, but there's still one huge limitation: you can have only one sort of order for a database, even though you might need a different one for each language. Michael Kaplan reveals some undocumented features in Access 2000 including how to deal with upper- and lower-case characters.

Mike Gunderloy **Everything About Using Parameters from Code** 19 Article

Mike Gunderloy untangles the problem of using parameter queries from DAO or ADO code.

2000-04	Silver Collection		
Stuart Kinnear	**Managing Your Installation**	1	Article

In this article, Stuart Kinnear returns to discuss the overall process of a successful installation. He also looks at some of the subtler ways that an Access installation can fail.

Peter Vogel **The No-Problem Problem** 3 Editorial

Most companies tend to suffer from the "no problem" problem. Management bumps into a worker in the hallway and asks, "How are things going?" The answer is always "No problem." Peter explains the situation in this editorial.

Stuart Kinnear **Detecting the Service Release** 5 Sidebar

Detecting the Service Release

Stuart Kinnear **Detecting the Version** 6 Sidebar

Detecting the Version

Dave7 Gannon **Get More From Your List Boxes** 8 Article

Dave Gannon provides three neat tricks that you can use on your next form—provided you're familiar with the properties of the Access list box.

Michael McManus **Client-Server Utilities** 11 Article

If you're using SQL Server as your back-end database, you'll get your best performance by using stored procedures. Here Michael McManus showcases some standard routines to make using those tools a little easier.

Peter Vogel **Effective User Manuals** 13 Article

A user manual can reduce your maintenance costs and time on the phone—if it's a good one. Peter Vogel explores how to create a user manual that will actually get read.

Andy Baron **Powering Up** 18 Article

This month, Andy Baron returns with a variety of answers covering both Access 97 and Access 2000. Andy also lets you in on some of the neat new features of Jet 4.0's SQL syntax. To top things off, Andy describes a security hole in Access 2000

		Page	Article Type
2000-03	**Silver Collection**		
Stuart Kinnear	**Solve Installation Problems with SageKey**	1	Article

After spending a long time developing and refining your Access application, it's now time to get it out to your clients. Creating an installation program for release to the general community is a perilous game. Stuart Kinnear discusses some problems with the Microsoft Office Developer Edition Tools and offer solutions using Wise and Sagekey installation scripts.

Peter Vogel	**On The Road Again**	4	Editorial

Don’t get me wrong—I like presenting at the conferences. There’s no money in it, but it offers me a lot of benefits. First and foremost, I get to meet people, particularly Smart Access readers.

Stuart Kinnear	**The Test Environment**	5	Sidebar

The Test Environment

Stuart Kinnear	**An Interview with Barry Manfield**	7	Sidebar

An Interview with Barry Manfield

Garry Robinson	**Analyze Your Data in Space**	8	Article

Microsoft Access isn't known as a tool for displaying spatial or mapping information. But, with a few special tricks, some crosstab queries, and MSGraph, you can transform coordinates into useful maps. Garry Robinson, with some help from Scott McManus, also demonstrates techniques that can be used for statistics, graphs, and extending your crosstab queries, regardless of how you want to lay out your data.

Peter Vogel	**Advanced ADO Data Providers**	13	Article

If you have some special data source that you want to extract data from, you can create an ADO data provider. Peter moves beyond simple read-only providers to show you how to create a provider that performs updates, accepts parameter strings, and fires events.

Michael Kaplan	**Error Information, Workarounds, and Converting to Access 2000**	16	Access Answers

In this month's column, Access guru Michael Kaplan takes a break from his contributions to the Access newsgroups and his work at Microsoft. Michael provides answers for some pressing questions ranging from ADO to bugs in Access' password mask feature, to conversion problems in moving to Access 2000.

2000-02	**Silver Collection**		
Cindy Meister	**What Every Access Developer Needs to Know about Word**	1	Article

Sometimes, as an Access Developer you need a more powerful reporting tool than Access's internal reporting feature. Microsoft Word can give you the power that you need. Cindy Meister's article covers the topics that every Access developer needs to know about Microsoft Word.

Peter Vogel	**Getting Better**	4	Editorial

For the past four issues I’ve been using this space to talk about ways that you can manage your career to ensure that you can have the jobs you want (and stay employed). This is the last editorial in this series (I promise!), and I’m going to use it to talk about what you can do to improve in any particular skill.

Garry Robinson	**Creating an ADO Data Provider**	10	Article

ADO lets you access data through data providers. Here's how to create your own data provider, which can be used from ADO. Peter Vogel demonstrates this technology by creating a provider to pull Form, Query, and Report information out of an Access MDB.

Stuart Kinnear	**Upgrading to Access 2000**	13	Article

Upgrading to Access 200 isn't as straightforward as Microsoft would have you believe. Stuart Kinnear offers a firsthand look at the problems with converting and deploying applications, along with some answers.

Mike Gunderloy	**Client-Server Efficiency and Weekdays**	16	Access Answers

Mike Gunderloy digs into the way Access 2000 works with SQL Server and returns once more to the issue of counting the days of the week in a month.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type
2000-01	Silver Collection		
Mike Gunderloy	**Advanced Data Shaping**	1	Article

Mike Gunderloy provides some examples of ADO's SHAPE..APPEND statement in action, including how to synchronize child and parent Recordsets. Mike also introduces the SHAPE..COMPUTER statement.

Peter Vogel	**Taking an Inventory**	4	Editorial

Peter discusses skills again … "The first thing that you have to recognize is that your skill portfolio isn't limited to your technical skills. "

Helen Feddema	**Design Schemes - An Access Add-in**	8	Article

Helen Feddema returns to creating Add-Ins, this time for Access 2000, and creates an Add-in that manages the appearance of your Forms and Reports.

Helen Feddema	**Form Templates**	10	Sidebar

Form Templates

Helen Feddema	**Upgrading an Access 97 Add-in to Access 2000**	11	Sidebar

Upgrading an Access 97 Add-in to Access 2000

Christopher R. Weber	**Control Your Subforms**	13	Article

It really doesn't make any sense to save an Order without any details. Christopher R. Weber explains how, by enhancing your interface design, you can create n event that stops users from omitting the detail records.

Steve Thompson	**Gatsby Product Review**	16	Review

Gatsby might be the fastest way to build and deploy Access Web-enabled databases for use on an intranet or the Internet without any additional work! Steve Thompson reviews Gatsby to let you know what it can (and can't) do for you.

Peter Vogel	**Duplicates and AutoNumbers**	20	Access Answers

I have a bunch of records in a table that represent all of the tasks that could be performed on a given day. I must pull out the highest-priority task for each day. I've tried subqueries, sets, and everything else I can think of, but I don't seem to be able to get what I want. Am I going to have to write code?

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

			Page	Article Type
1999-12	Bronze Collection			
Garry Robinson	**Build Your Own Wizard User Interface**		1	Article
The wizard interface is one of the most successful that Microsoft has created. Garry Robinson shows how you can add wizards to your Access applications. Included with the article are a number of Access objects you can import into your application so that you can build your own wizards.				
Peter Vogel	**Managing Your Portfolio**		3	Editorial
How do you pick which areas to specialize in?				
Mike Gunderloy	**Data Shaping: Handling Non-Relational Data**		9	Article
Not all data can be force-fit into relational formats. Microsoft has introduced data shaping as an extension to SQL to handle hierarchical recordsets. Mike Gunderloy explains the basics of data shaping and digs into the syntax of the SHAPE statement.				
Don Franke	**Managing Hierarchical Data**		13	Article
If you have hierarchical data but don't want to use ADO's shaped recordsets, what are you going to do? Here's how to handle hierarchical data with the tools built into Access and Jet. Don Franke has provided ADO and DAO solutions and shows how to move the code onto the World Wide Web.				
Mike Gunderloy	**Client/Server Issues and Getting Access 2000 Under Control**		17	Access Answers
Mike Gunderloy's first answer addresses issues around client/server development, particularly the interactions between Access pass-through queries, SQL Server stored procedures, and Access forms. With that out of the way, Mike then shows how to tame some of the new behaviour of Access 2000.				
Phyllis Emigh	**Received Spell**		21	Smart Tip
Received Spell				
Christopher R. Weber	**Easy ComboBox Dropdown**		21	Smart Tip
Easy ComboBox Dropdown				
1999-11	Bronze Collection			
Helen Feddema	**Four Ways to Merge to Word**		1	Article
The Merge to Word button isn't the only way to merge Access data to Word documents. In this article, Helen Feddema demonstrates several more flexible methods, useful for creating either single or multiple word documents and filling them with Access data.				
Peter Vogel	**You've Got to Have Friends**		3	Editorial
Peter discusses Object Oriented and Tool specialists				
Helen Feddema	**Word Templates**		4	Sidebar
Word Templates				
Mike Gunderloy	**Power Up with Subdatasheets**		10	Article
Access 2000 introduces the subdatasheet as a new way to view related data in a compact format. Mike Gunderloy explores subdatasheets, showing how you can create these new entities and what you can do with them from both code and Access' user interface. Mike also includes some subdatasheet traps.				
Peter Vogel	**Secrets of Debugging**		13	Article
Peter Vogel looks at what you should be doing when you debug your applications, including three tips on writing debuggable code. This article shows the techniques that you should use to make your debugging sessions as effective as possible.				
Mike Gunderloy	**Programming Efficiency and Days in a Month**		18	Access Answers
This month, Mike Gunderloy provides two solutions to a problem in date arithmetic. As a result, he discusses the true meaning of efficiency and how a good programmer approaches even the simplest problems.				
Christopher R. Weber	**When is Modal not Modal?**		21	Smart Tip
When is Modal not Modal?				

		Page	Article Type
1999-10	**Bronze Collection**		
Dana Jones	**Using the Access 2000 Database Window**	1	Article
This Database Window is the first thing you see when you load an Access database. In this article, Mike Gunderloy and Dana Jones dig into the Database Window Interface to introduce you to many of the new features in Access 2000 and help you work smarter and more efficiently.			
Peter Vogel	**What's an Expert?**	2	Editorial
Over the past few years, though, things have changed. For example, languages have become simpler.			
Peter Heskett	**Tip: Access Millennium Tip**	9	Smart Tip
Tip: Access Millennium Tip			
Russell Sinclair	**Using the ADO Objects Effectively**	10	Article
Knowing how the ADO objects work isn't enough. In this article, Russell Sinclair reveals some of the secrets behind using them together.			
Dima Mnushkin	**Encryption**	14	Sidebar
Encryption			
Assigning permissions to tables does nothing to protect your sensitive data from anyone with a word processor. If you find Access security too cumbersome to use, Dima Mnushkin provides you with a simple solution for encrypting sensitive data. Along the way, you'll be introduced to the costs and benefits of using Access encryption.			
Steve Thompson	**PeerDirect: A Replication Solution**	18	Article
PeerDirect provides replication between ODBC databases. Since bi-directional replication isn't supported natively by SQL Server 6.5 and Access 97, PeerDirect provides a potential solution. Steve Thompson reviews the product to see how it really works.			
Steve Thompson	**What Makes a Good Replication Tool?**	20	Article
What Makes a Good Replication Tool?			
1999-09	**Bronze Collection**		
Robert Ruder	**System Tables, Group Level Management, and Bitmasks: The Report Manager**	1	Article
Forms and reports in custom-built Access applications tend to multiply without end. Robert Ruder describes some techniques to manage the growth of the reports.			
Peter Vogel	**Helping Out**	3	Editorial
I get a lot of satisfaction from being a consultant. It's a grand life if you don't weaken, as my mother-in-law frequently says.			
Russell Sinclair	**Using the ADO Command Object**	9	Article
In this article, Russell Sinclair continues his discussion of ADO by looking at the Command object - and modifying some data, for a change.			
Peter Vogel	**Working SQL Case Study: Effective SQL for Scheduling**	12	Article
Peter Vogel describes how a combination of SQL and Access generated a solution for a scheduling application. In the process, this article describes how a set-based approached to the problem will let you find the most effective SQL solutions. On the way, Peter provides two different solutions to the problem.			
Tony Naylon	**Faster, Smaller Dates**	19	Smart Tip
Faster, Smaller Dates			
C.K. Thompson	**Tip: Identifying reports**	19	Smart Tip
Tip: Identifying reports			
Mike Gunderloy	**A Pair of Table Problems**	20	Access Answers
In this article, Mike Gunderloy discusses lookup fields in tables and the problem of reattaching linked tables.			

1999-08 Bronze Collection

Mary Chipman **Client/Server Development with Access** 1 Article

When you start using Access as a front end for a server database, the rules change. This article introduces the fundamental techniques for delivering effective client/server applications with Access.

Peter Vogel **Trolling for Articles** 2 Editorial

While I'm certainly committed both to Microsoft Access and to ADO, it's also important that this newsletter make clear to you what isn't so great about these products and what workarounds exist. This newsletter isn't "authorized" by Microsoft, so we're free to print any article that's helpful to our readers.

Stephen Forte **Creating Tables, Views, and Procedures in Access with ADOx** 10 Article

In many ways, ADO is a collection of interesting technologies. In this article, Stephen looks at ADOx, a library of objects that allows you to create tables and views.

Michael Kaplan **Don't Stick the Fork in, They're Not Done Yet** 13 Article

There's been a lot of talk these days about how obsolete DAO is and how all code should be ported to use ADO and ADOx as soon as you can manage. Michael and Karleen, however, discuss several areas where ADO falls short and where you're still going to need DAO.

Karleen Smith **Don't Stick the Fork in, They're Not Done Yet** 13 Article

There's been a lot of talk these days about how obsolete DAO is and how all code should be ported to use ADO and ADOx as soon as you can manage. Michael and Karleen, however, discuss several areas where ADO falls short and where you're still going to need DAO.

Russell Sinclair **Everything you Need to Know About ADO Recordsets** 17 Article

This month, Russell turns his attention to the Recordset object and show the similarities and differences between the DAO and ADO recordsets.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type
1999-07	Bronze Collection		
Hardin Brothers	**Preventing Reference Failures**	1	Article
In the March 1999 issue's Access World News, we reported on how Access references can break when end users update their systems or install new software. Hardin explains the problem that causes functions like Left() and Date() to fail, delves into some mysteries in Access's use of references, and presents a module that can get your applications back on track.			
Peter Vogel	**Active Development**	2	Editorial
As with most consultants, I work with a variety of tools. Access is certainly one of the most important tools in my kit, but it’s not the only one. I’ve found myself becoming a VB expert, as I’m sure most of you have also.			
Hardin Brothers	**The Object Browser**	5	Sidebar
The Object Browser			
Hardin Brothers	**The References Collection and the Reference Object**	7	Sidebar
The References Collection and the Reference Object			
Helen Feddema	**Import Outlook Date into Access**	10	Article
Helen provides an add-in that makes your Outlook Contact data available to your Access Applications. Helen's routine handles Outlook's various idiosyncrasies, including overdefined custom Outlook fields.			
Helen Feddema	**Installing the Add-in**	11	Sidebar
Installing the Add-in			
David Irvine	**An Access Application: The Form's the Thing**	14	Article
From your user's point of view, forms are the heart of your application. Dave looks at what you should be considering when you create your forms and demonstrates a little-used UI design technique.			
A Complete Access Application			
Garry Robinson	**Images, Automatic HTML, and Changing Tables with SQL**	18	Access Answers
Garry has been running an interactive Web site for his company, and he gets a number of e-mails asking, "How did you do that?" Here are the answers to some of the more interesting questions that have come in over the past two years.			
Clyde Hauck	**A Simpler Menu Manager**	22	Smart Tip
A Simpler Menu Manager			

1999-06 Bronze Collection

Garry Robinson **Create Dynamic Chart Applications** 1 Article

The Chart object that ships with Microsoft Office can be daunting to use. It also lets you create very flexible displays. In this article, Garry shows you not only how to use this powerful tool but also a way to generate the code to use it.

Peter Vogel **Working in the Real World** 3 Editorial

This month, I'd like to talk about something that you all know: the real systems development cycle. This is significantly different from the cycle discussed in most systems design books.

Mark Davis **Deleting Records in Access 97** 9 Article

Deleting Records in Access 97

Peter Vogel **Seven Rules for Effective User Interface Design** 10 Article

In this article, Peter returns to the problem of designing effective user interfaces for Microsoft Access. Peter provides you with seven rules that you can use to avoid creating 'interfaces that suck'.

Russell Sinclair **Connecting to Any Data Source with ADO** 13 Article

In this article, Russell introduces you to the Connection object. He explains its properties, methods, and events and tells you what you need to know to get connected using this important part of ADO.

Andy Baron **Forms, Reports, and Deleting Errors** 17 Article

This month, Andy addresses a variety of issues, including several tips related to forms, a look at how to dynamically sort reports, and a discussion of how VBA handles certain date/time calculations.

Eli Gruen **Autoformat and Combo Boxes** 22 Smart Tip

Autoformat and Combo Boxes

D. P. Saville **Custom Sorting** 22 Smart Tip

Custom Sorting

1999-05 Bronze Collection

Stephen Forte **Persistent Recordsets in ADO** 1 Article

There are things ADO can do that no other data access method can. One of the coolest is persistent datasets. In this article, one of the gurus of ADO shows you how to use this technology in your Access applications.

Peter Vogel **It's Good To Have Friends** 3 Editorial

The secret of producing software with the minimum number of bugs at the lowest cost has been known for some time: structured walkthroughs.

Russell Sinclair **An ADO Tutorial: What is ADO?** 8 Article

In this article, Russell provides a primer on what you need to know about ADO: what it is, why you should care, ADO's relation to OLE DB, and a tour of the major objects in ADO.

David Irvine **An Access Project: Creating a Great Report** 10 Article

In this instalment of his ongoing series, David looks at the part that reports play in developing your application. In addition to discussing the issues around development, this article looks at the most effective way to build your reports and some useful (though overlooked) properties.

Mark Tamura **Exploiting the Query Manager** 14 Article

Access's Query Manager is a powerful and easy-to-use tool. Too often, developers overlook its advantages and delve into coding an exclusively VBA solution. Here's one case where using the query manager is the better choice over conventional programming.

Warren Erickson **Linking Photos** 17 Smart Tip

Linking Photos

Chris Miller **Setup Output Problems** 17 Sidebar

Setup Output Problems

Ken Getz **ActiveX Controls and Forms** 18 Article

In this month's "Access Answers" column, Ken takes on a series of questions he's received lately, all dealing with using ActiveX controls on Access forms.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

1999-04 Bronze Collection

Tom Heisler **AdHoc Report Builder** 1 Article

You've built every report that management has requested. So what happens the first time they use your product? They want more (or different) reports! Typically, the first thing an advanced user wants is more selection criteria. Here's how to build a table-driven, graphical, reusable Where expression generator that works on any Access report.

Dennis Hollenbeck **AdHoc Report Builder** 1 Article

You've built every report that management has requested. So what happens the first time they use your product? They want more (or different) reports! Typically, the first thing an advanced user wants is more selection criteria. Here's how to build a table-driven, graphical, reusable Where expression generator that works on any Access report.

Peter Vogel **We'll All Hang Together** 3 Editorial

In this issue, we look at buying pre-packaged components vs. building your own tools, creating customizable tools for the developer and user, and how to handle a variety of user interfaces.

Tom Heisler **Adding Captions to Reports** 4 Sidebar

Adding Captions to Reports

Dennis Hollenbeck **Adding Captions to Reports** 4 Sidebar

Adding Captions to Reports

Sanjay Singh **Saving Screenshots** 7 Article

Saving Screenshots

Russell Sinclair **EZ Reports** 8 Article

Cary Prague Books and Software has merged its consulting services, mail order, and software development under a single name. In this review, Russell Sinclair takes a look at its first product for Access developers: EZ Report Manager.

Helen Feddema **Menu Manager: A Compact, All-in-One Main Menu for Access Applications** 10 Article

Helen presents the Menu Manager add-in. This add-in creates a single main menu for your application that lets users perform all interface activities using drop-down lists for selecting objects and initiating actions.

Jeff Ruffner **Drilling with Combo Boxes** 15 Article

Jeff provides a comprehensive look at how you can use your combo boxes for more than just selecting values.

Peter Vogel **Access User Interface Design** 18 Article

Many developers find themselves creating the user interface for their applications without any training. Peter discusses how you can use Access' features to deliver an excellent user interface.

Sorin Militaru **Shortcuts for Symbols** 21 Smart Tip

Shortcuts for Symbols

		Page	Article Type
1999-03	**Bronze Collection**		
Peter Vogel	**From Access to Automated E-mail**	1	Article
Microsoft Access supports Microsoft Exchange and Microsoft Outlook through a downloadable Link Manager. This article shows you how to set up a Web-based system to help automate your email collection using Access 97.			
Peter Vogel	**Managing Change**	3	Editorial
I read somewhere that 85 percent of the population will go the whole year without reading a book about their field of work. Hopefully, the collected annual issues of Smart Access will count as your book for this year.			
Michael Corning	**Access to XML**	10	Article
The eXtensible Markup Language (XML) provides a powerful way to embed information about data into text. In this article, Michael introduces you to XML and shows you how it can be used with Access.			
Michael Corning	**Valid and Well-Formed XML**	12	Sidebar
Valid and Well-Formed XML			
David Irvine	**An Access Project: Data Modeling**	14	Article
In this series of articles, David walks through the process of creating a complete Access application. While the application itself is a valuable tool in a developer's toolkit, David will concentrate in each article on using some feature of Microsoft Access.			
Peter Strong	**The Easy Approach to Code Reuse**	17	Article
The hard part of code reuse has always been finding that elusive snippet of code that's buried somewhere among hundreds of modules in different databases. This article introduces an easy-to-use library that allows you to quickly access your favorite procedures, plus a look at using the Windows clipboard.			
Peter Strong	**Clipboard Etiquette**	19	Smart Tip
Clipboard Etiquette			
Peter Vogel	**Access Answers, March 99**	24	Access Answers
Peter looks at a classic problem in data design and how to mimic multi-threading in Access.			
1999-02	**Bronze Collection**		
Peter Vogel	**Accessing ADO**	1	Article
ActiveX Data Objects is the successor to Data Access Objects, and with Access 2000, ADO finally goes mainstream. Here's a quick look at some neat things that Access 2000 and ADO can do together.			
Peter Vogel	**We Interrupt Our Regular Broadcasting**	3	Editorial
To keep you informed of what’s going on, we’ve devoted most of this issue to a look at what we think are the neatest new features of Access 2000.			
James Beidleman	**One Big Step for Access, One Huge Leap Toward SQL Server**	5	Article
Access doesn't come with Jet anymore--now you get your very own copy of SQL Server. SQL Server developer James Beidleman takes a look at what you get with Access 2000.			
Angela Jones	**Access 2000 Web Page Advice from a Total Beginner**	11	Article
Never done a Web-enabled interface for your database? Ever worked with beta software? Neither had Angela, before this experiment with Access 2000. Here's how she went from total newbie to author of a working one-to-many data access page (well, mostly working..) in a few short hours. Angela also gives a look at the thrills (?) of working with beta software.			
Mary Chipman	**Introducing the TSI Synchronizer Object**	17	Article
Developers have long yearned for a way to programmatically control the Replication Manager. At last, relief is at hand. Michael Kaplan has created the TSI Synchronizer Object, and this article will tell you how to use it.			
Michael Kaplan	**Introducing the TSI Synchronizer Object**	17	Article
Developers have long yearned for a way to programmatically control the Replication Manager. At last, relief is at hand. Michael Kaplan has created the TSI Synchronizer Object, and this article will tell you how to use it.			

1999-01 Bronze Collection

Shamil Salakhetdinov **Using Dynamic External Event Procedures** 3 Article

Reusable code libraries let you deploy bullet-proof applications. Here's how to create a library of objects (with inheritance) that you can use to process Form events. All you have to do is use the WithEvents keyword and Access 97 objects.

Peter Vogel **Career Advice** 3 Editorial

I had a boss once who gave me some good advice. He said that you can do good work or do bad work, and youcan look like you’re doing good work or doing bad work.

Gabriel Moreno **Untangling the Search Strings** 8 Article

For the most part, building search strings in Microsoft Jet's SQL dialect or Access VBA language is very straightforward. However, there are several subtleties of these processors that can easily be overlooked.

Peter Strong **Keeping up Appearance** 14 Article

If you spend a lot of your time cutting and pasting code headers and error handlers from procedure to procedure, or if you've inherited code that simply isn't up to standard, then you'll like the first of two add-ins that Peter Strong has written to help you organize your code.

David Irvine **An Access Project, Part 1: Requirements** 16 Article

In this series of articles, David Irvine walks through the process of creating a complete Access application. While the application itself is a valuable tool in a developer's toolkit, David will concentrate in each article on using some feature of Microsoft Access.

Russell Sinclair **Undo and Reusable Customizations** 19 Access Answers

In this month's column, Russell looks at implementing undo in form-subform applications and then goes on to demonstrate some reusable error-handling code that exploits a new feature in Access 97.

Gary Warren King **Don't Be Bit By Booleans** 21 Article

Boolean variables allow you to store the values True and False. If you're not careful, though, you can be surprised what True and False add up to.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type

1998-12 Bronze Collection

Marek Kepinski **Programming WithEvents** 1 Article

By using the WithEvents keyword, you can extend the possibilities of Access's classes. Marek presents new ideas on programming in Access.

Peter Vogel **The Future of Access?** 3 Editorial

Okay one last time: Access isn't going away. I just read another article from another pundit who, having noticed that a version of SQL Server is going to be included in the enterprise version of Access 2000, proclaimed that this means the end of Access.

Marek Kepinski **Excel-ent Events** 4 Sidebar

Excel-ent Events

Garry Robinson **Cloning Solutions** 7 Article

Following on our report of the RecordsetClone bug in Access, Garry offers a replacement Wizard that doesn't generate defective code. Regardless of whether you're worried about the bug, Garry's Wizard also does more than the Access ComboBox Wizard.

Peter Vogel **Objects for the Database Developer** 9 Article

If you've been developing applications to run against relational databases, then you're ready to start using objects. Here's a case study in using Access Class modules.

Mark Miller **Automating Table Reattachments** 13 Article

It's so easy to break a link to an attached table that a routine that automatically fixes those links is a real asset to a developer. Here's an extended version of a utility that we published back in May that further automates the process.

Mary Chipman **Access Replication** 18 Access Answers

Mary draws on her expertise with replication to answer a variety of questions from a number of sources. Mary tackles using GUIDs, deleting replicas, replicating multiple database applications, and other thorny issues.

1998-11 Bronze Collection

Andy Baron **An Access Nightmare** 1 Article

A very serious bug has been lurking in Access, possibly since version 2. Andy describes the problem and provides an effective workaround.

Peter Vogel **Bugs and Quality** 3 Editorial

Peter discusses the reality of bugs and Access

Sanjay Singh **Use Excel to Analyze and Graph Access Data** 6 Article

Excel is an excellent tool for analyzing and graphing data. Here's a "generic" utility to transfer data from Access to Excel. It's so generic that it can be used to create complete graphing solutions without one additional line of code.

Sanjay Singh **Charting Variable Ranges in Excel** 10 Sidebar

Charting Variable Ranges in Excel

Ivor Davies **An Access Control Panel, Part 2** 11 Article

The first article in this series described how to capture information on database objects (see "Building an Access Control Panel" in the September 1998 issue). Part 2 examines how to store that information using DAO and the Documents collection.

Garry Robinson **Adding Database Tools to Excel Spreadsheets** 17 Article

Microsoft Access 95 supports using Excel as a database through the Link table manager. Here's how that works using a Contact software database that allows you to manage Company and related information. While the data is stored in Excel, the Contact Manager has been written in Access.

Peter Vogel **SQL Discrepancies, List Boxes, and Still Trying to Get a Date** 19 Article

Teaching for Learning Tree International, Peter gets peppered with questions, many of them about Access.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type

1998-10 Bronze Collection

Garry Robinson — **Consolidating Your Data with Queries** — 1 — Article

From the author of the Graf-FX data mining tool, here's a comprehensive look at how you can use consolidation queries in Access. And we're not just talking about how to use Group By, either.

Peter Vogel — **Building a Better Access Resource** — 3 — Editorial

Peter discusses a Smart Access reader survey

Markus Bosshard — **Data Modeling For Access Developers** — 7 — Article

For many Access Developers, data modeling is something that's only used for large database systems - for too technical to be of any practical use. Well, that's not exactly true. The fact that you're using Access and not Excel show that you wants your data stored in a structured way in a database. This article shows you how to go about structuring your data using data modeling.

Peter Vogel — **Case Study: Configuring Data** — 11 — Article

Sometimes the way that data is stored makes is difficult to realize that a SQL solution is possible. Here's a case where using SQL decreased the size of the program and cut its run time by 12,000 percent.

David Irvine — **Bar Code Basics: How to Use Electronic Data Capture** — 15 — Article

It's not a question of using bar codes but of how you're going to use them. Here's what you need to know to understand bar code technology.

Russell Sinclair — **Say UNC, API Calls, {CAPSLOCK}, and Time** — 18 — Access Answers

In this month's "Access Answers," Russel looks at some problems with storing Word documents in a database, turning off the CapsLock key, and calculating the time between events.

1998-09 Bronze Collection

Ivor Davies — **Building an Access Control Panel** — 1 — Article

Here’s a set of utilities that lets you organize online access to information about your database.

Peter Vogel — **Three Steps to Disaster** — 3 — Editorial

I have this theory about the life cycle of a lot of computer systems. I call it Peter’s Three Step Life Cycle

Garry Warren King — **Properties Without Fear** — 7 — Article

If you aren't using DAO's ability to create new properties, perhaps you should be. Gary outlines a couple of very interesting ways to use this facility to give you more powerful applications.

Helen Feddema — **Wizards, Part 3: Your First Wizard** — 9 — Article

In this third instalment of a series, Helen looks at a minimal wizard: a menu add-in with two forms for gathering information from the user.

Peter Vogel — **Case Study: Researching Daa** — 12 — Article

In this column, Peter takes a research study database. In addition to showing how you can apply your skill with SQL to solve a problem that might have required several hours of VBA code, Peter also demonstrates some SQL tricks of the trade.

Andy Baron — **VBA Functions in a Client/Server Environment** — 15 — Article

VBA Functions in a Client/Server Environment

Andy Baron — **Undocumented Features, Subforms, and More** — 18 — Access Answers

This month, Andy addresses some Access 97 quirks and how to work around them; he dredges up an old error-handling technique from Vibe's deep, dark past; and he shows you a couple of cool tricks you can use with combo boxes.

		Page	Article Type

1998-08 Bronze Collection

Garry Robinson **Exploring Your Data Visually** 1 Article

Graf-FX is a shareware application written entirely in Access (and available in all current versions). It's designed to provide tools to explore your databases with graphs and queries using a technique called data mining. It's also a quick way to generate/prototype Access Graphs without running the wizards

Peter Vogel **Whose Data is it, Anyway?** 2 Editorial

Peter discusses data confidentiality.

Michael Kaplan **The PrivDBEngine Object** 5 Article

Here's the scenario: You have a large multi-user database in a workgroup. One user opens the database exclusively and completely locks out the other users. You have a lot of upset and possibly angry users who can't get into the database when needed. How do you deal with this problem?

Julianne Lee **The PrivDBEngine Object** 5 Article

Here's the scenario: You have a large multi-user database in a workgroup. One user opens the database exclusively and completely locks out the other users. You have a lot of upset and possibly angry users who can't get into the database when needed. How do you deal with this problem?

Helen Feddema **Wizards, Part 2: Property Builders** 8 Article

Helen continues her exploration of wizards with detailed information on how to create your own property builders.

Christopher Harris **Managing Lookup Tables** 11 Article

Chris presents the Lookup Table Manager - a one-stop utility that allows data to be added into and removed from any of the lookup tables that populate your Access databases.

Michael Corning **A Day in the Life - Part 3** 13 Article

In this final instalment of our glimpse into the life of a Microsoft support engineer, Michael looks at how you can get the Web wizard to handle both ADO errors and subforms. Plus, here's how to use Access as a starting point for the newest technology on the Web: DHTML.

1998-07 Bronze Collection

Stu Alderman **Taming the Century Beast** 1 Article

Access has both strong and marvellous tools for handling dates. Even Access 2.0 can be made Y2K compliant, safely and innocuously (though there's at least one fiendish little bug).

Peter Vogel **Late and Early** 2 Editorial

Dates, 2k bug and other date relatied topics.

Brian Bailly **Preparing Access 2.0 for Y2K** 7 Article

Here's a tool that will tell you if you've got some problem dates while it fixes inappropriately formatted fields.

Helen Feddema **Adding Functionality, Part 1: Menu Add-Ins** 9 Article

In this series of articles, Helen will tell you everything you need to know about creating your own wizards, builders and add-ins. The first installment focuses on menu add-ins and is adapted from MCSD: Access 95 Study Guide, by Peter Vogel and Helen Feddema, from Sybex books.

Clyde Hauck **Network Utilities** 13 Article

Here's a set of utilities that will let you capture who's doing what and when in a network database.

Michael Corning **A Day in the Life - Part 2** 16 Article

In the second part of this series, Michael continues his discussion of the data issues involved in creating a Web-based Access application.

Angela Jones **Right Clicks, Subforms, and Numbers** 18 Access Answers

Angela solves a few day-to-day form and report problems, including how to stop dangerous right clickers and how to dynamically add line numbers.

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type
1998-06	Bronze Collection		
Angela Jones	**Saving Time Using Date/Time Functions**	1	Article

This might not be everything you want to know about Access's Date/Time Functions, but it's all the cool stuff. Angela explains and compares the most useful of Access's 22 Date/Time functions, includes some real cool coding tricks, and tells you which functions will give you the best performance.

Peter Vogel **A Moveable Feast** 2 Editorial

Vandals, Viruses and Moral Decisions

Peter Vogel **Access Virus Alert** 6 Article

In March 1998, the first Access virus appeared. Here's what you need to know about it.

Michael Corning **A Day in the Life of Microsoft Developer Support - Part 1** 8 Article

Here's a different kind of Smart Access article. In addition to some in-depth information on ADO and ODBC (including some comments from Kyle Geiger, the father of ODBC), it's a look at what life is like for a Microsoft Support Engineer.

Ashish Nanda **Template Your Error Handling** 11 Article

You know you should put more error handling in your code. Here's a tool that will let you add your error handling code in less time then you're spending now.

David Irvine **Electronic Commerce, Part 2 - Actually, It Works Pretty Well** 13 Article

In last month's issue, Dave provided an introduction to the non-coding features involved in setting up an EDI system. This month, he gets down to the Access code and queries that make it all work.

John Viescas **Query Queries** 17 Article

John tackles some common problems that are faced by Access Developers. Drawing on queries that keep cropping up in the Access newsgroups, John clears up some fundamental problems.

		Page	Article Type

1998-05 Bronze Collection

Peter Vogel — **Learning to Share** — 1 — Article

Sharing data between forms can be awkward in Access. In this article, Peter reviews all the techniques available for performing this task, including making use of Access 95 and 97's ability to add new properties to a form. By using forms as objects, you can even have two forms share a single recordset.

Peter Vogel — **A Movable Feast** — 2 — Editorial

Peter discusses the content of this month's issue and what an Access developer needs to know.

George Esser — **Working with Attached Tables** — 7 — Article

Attached files are often necessary in a multi-user application. Here's a toolbox of routines to programmatically validate attachments, determine whether a problem is a result of networking, permissions or missing files; and repair the attachment, by reattaching or changing the path.

Mark Davis — **Query Based Applications** — 10 — Article

With the help of a structured naming convention, you can harness the power of Access objects to develop data mining applications quickly and efficiently.

David Irvine — **Electronic Commerce, Part 1: It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time** — 14 — Article

Electronic commerce didn't appear with the Internet. Companies have been using Electronic Document Interchange (EDI) for years. Here's what you should know and how Access fits in, from the former chairman of one of Canada's EDI advisory boards. Part 2 will go into the programming detail that will make this work.

Russell Sinclair — **Printers, Disks, and Controls** — 18 — Access Answers

Russell Sinclair has some answers for working with printers and UNC names. In addition to solving some interesting problems, you'll also get a look at the Windows API. Peter shows how to use ActiveX controls with Access.

Peter Vogel — **Printers, Disks, and Controls** — 18 — Access Answers

Russell Sinclair has some answers for working with printers and UNC names. In addition to solving some interesting problems, you'll also get a look at the Windows API. Peter shows how to use ActiveX controls with Access.

Charlie Curtis — **Symbolically Yours** — 24 — Smart Tip

Adding special characters to output

Militaru Sorin — **Vertical Line in Detail Sections** — 24 — Smart Tip

Vertical Line in Detail Sections

1998-04 Bronze Collection

Michael Corning — **An ADO/ASP Tutorial** — 1 — Article

Waiting in the future for Access Developers is Jet 4.0. Beyond that is ActiveX Data Objects (ADO). As an Access Developer, you already have a tutorial in ADO installed on your computer. Just ask Access to export your forms to ASP.

Peter Vogel — **Old Lamps for New** — 2 — Editorial

Peter talks about dealing with new technologies and building on the past.

Wayne Wallace — **Putting Subqueries to Use** — 9 — Article

An earlier "Working on SQL" column discussed subqueries and suggested that you could use subqueries to replace VBA code and speed up your programs. In a guest Working SQL column, Wayne provides a set of rules for recognizing when you can do this and how to do it.

Russell Sinclair — **Document Procedures Separately** — 13 — Article

Documentation is one of the most important steps in any development project. In this article, Russell shows you how you can use the properties of the Module object introduced in Access 97 to document procedures in your code separately in order to make your documentation easier to read and understand.

Peter Vogel — **Peter Comes to Bat** — 17 — Access Answers

In this month's issue, Peter tackles a common problem for new Access developers and ends up quoting himself. Also - using the RecordsetClone, violating Windows user interface standards, data entry forms, and how to get a date.

		Page	Article Type
1998-03	Bronze Collection		
Andy Baron	**The Loss of a Friend**	1	Article
On December 6th, the Access community lost a treasured friend and colleague, Chris Bell.			
Peter Vogel	**Silence**	2	Editorial
Peter on Chris Bell's legacy .			
Art Walls	**Creating Histograms Using Access**	6	Article
Excel hits a wall when the number of rows gets high. Here's how one Access Developer used Access and the Access Query Designer to extend and enhance one of Excel's data analysis tools.			
Helen Feddema	**Applying a Naming Convention to a Legacy Application**	8	Article
One of the ways to make your programs easier to understand is using an effective naming convention. In this article, Helen provides some techniques for applying a naming convention to an existing application.			
Bruce Loving	**Labels on Demand**	14	Article
Much of the data in Access databases ends up on labels - there's even a special report wizard for it. But if you need to produce labels one at a time on an ad hoc basis, this might be the printer you need.			
Ashish Nanda	**Track Your System File Version**	17	Article
Use Access and VERSION.DLL to track system file versions and get some control over DLLs and the Windows environment.			
1998-02	Bronze Collection		
Peter Bryant	**Searching Access**	1	Article
Peter describes the code behind the DBRat utility, which allows you to do a search and replace on any object name in your Access 2.0 database.			
Peter Vogel	**It's a Grand Life If You Don't Weaken**	2	Editorial
Peter talks about life on the road.			
Angela Jones	**Developing a Certified Access Study Guide**	6	Article
Angela helped write New Riders guide to passing the Access certification exam. In this article she describes how her Access knowledge led to a new field of work.			
D. P. Saville	**Accessing Spatial Data, Part 3**	11	Article
David provides some new utilities for working with spatial and geographic data, plus a complete geographical application.			
D. P. Saville	**Digital Mapping**	14	Article
A look at the problems and issues in creating digital maps.			
Mary Chipman	**Security, Replication, and No Automation**	18	Access Answers
Mary looks at some problems with security and replication. Peter looks at automating Access 2.0 (can't be done) and provides a work around.			
Peter Vogel	**Security, Replication, and No Automation**	18	Access Answers
Mary looks at some problems with security and replication. Peter looks at automating Access 2.0 (can't be done) and provides a work around.			
Peter begins a two part article on normalization: what it is and why you care.			

Find the PDFs and Downloads at http://www.vb123.com/smart/

		Page	Article Type
1998-01	Bronze Collection		
Ivan Phillips	**Access the PalmPilot Using PenDragon Forms**	1	Article
Ivan shows how to use Access to take advantage of the hot new Personal Digital Assistant - 3 Com's PalmPilot			
Peter Vogel	**I'm Just Too Busy**	2	Editorial
Peter talks about handling too much work.			
Michael Kaplan	**Is The Query Compiled?**	7	Article
DAO provides an object model that supplies almost every piece of information about a query that you might to know. One piece of information that it doesn't provide, however, is whether or not a query is compiled. Michael and Julianne discuss how you can determine this interesting and sometimes useful property of a query.			
Julianne Lee	**Is The Query Compiled?**	7	Article
DAO provides an object model that supplies almost every piece of information about a query that you might to know. One piece of information that it doesn't provide, however, is whether or not a query is compiled. Michael and Julianne discuss how you can determine this interesting and sometimes useful property of a query.			
D. P. Saville	**Accessing Spatial Data, Part 2**	10	Article
David's second article on working with geographical data adds routines for determining area and whether or not a point is inside an area.			
Peter Vogel	**Working SQL: The Trouble With Normal**	13	Article
In the first of two articles, Peter looks at the five rules of normalization, with special emphasis on the first normal state.			
Andy Baron	**Access Answers: Forms and Wizards**	16	Access Answers
Andy takes a look at some special situations with forms and wizards.			
1997-12	Bronze Collection		
D. P. Saville	**Accessing Spatial Data**	1	Article
In the first of a three part series David provides the routines to work with geographical data.			
Jamie Biedleman	**Using Access to Prototype for SQL Server**	6	Article
Jamie shows that even in a SQL Server project, using Access can speed up project delivery.			
Christopher R. Weber	**Order by Phone or Any Other Field**	9	Article
Chris uses the new Order properties of the Access 95/97 forms to create a flexible user interface.			
Peter Vogel	**The Return of Working SQL**	12	Article
Peter provides a quick intro to the relational algebra and how you can use it to understand how to optimize your queries.			
Duane Hookum	**Cross-Reference Your Tables and Fields**	16	Article
Duane shows how to use a cross tab query in conjunction with Access's documentation tool to provide a cool table/field cross reference.			
Jeremy Burns	**AutoExecuting Functions**	21	Smart Tip
The use of a simple function speeds form validation.			
Paul Litwin	**Access World News for December 1998 Issue**	24	Access World News
Component Café provides some Access utilities and Communication Horizons announces a new security/encryption tools			

			Page	Article Type
1997-11	Bronze Collection			
Russell Sinclair	**Repair and Compact Attached Databases**		1	Article
Russel provides a set of utility routines to allow you to compact all the databases attached to your database.				
Paul Litwin	**Editorial for November 1997 Issue**		2	Editorial
Peter discusses the relationship between knowledge and data.				
Mike Gunderloy	**The ABC's of Requirements Management for Access**		4	Article
Mike provides everything you need to know in order to do requirements analysis: from the politics of the process to the necessity of wide margins.				
Andy Baron	**The M-Files:MVP solutions to your biggest problems**		7	Article
A collection of tips and tricks for working with Access.				
Jim Ferguson	**The M-Files:MVP solutions to your biggest problems**		7	Article
A collection of tips and tricks for working with Access.				
Joe Maki	**The M-Files:MVP solutions to your biggest problems**		7	Article
A collection of tips and tricks for working with Access.				
John Viescas	**The M-Files:MVP solutions to your biggest problems**		7	Article
A collection of tips and tricks for working with Access.				
Peter Vogel	**Documentation and Total Access Analyzer 8.0**		13	Article
A look at some of the new features in TAA along with a plan for using it to develop a "documentation strategy".				
Peter Vogel	**The Best on the Net**		18	Article
The announcement of the "Best on the Net" contest to select the most useful sites on the Internet for Access developers.				
Roger Van Laere	**When 8 is Not Enough**		19	Smart Tip
Problems with using numerals when checking the Access version number.				
Jeremy Burns	**Default Value Magic**		21	Article
A neat trick in using the Default property of a form.				
Paul Litwin	**Access World News for November 1997 Issue**		24	Access World News
Palmtop Pilot development tools; Certification news; Microsoft Access web sites.				

1997-10 Bronze Collection

Peter Vogel **Automated Access** 1 Article

Peter outlines how to use Access from other programs through Automation with particular emphasis on using Access as a report writer.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for October 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

Peter discusses whether pure programming is enough to survive or if other skills are required also.

Luke Chung **I Never Knew I was Going to be in the Computer Business...** 6 Article

Luke gives an overview of the history of FMS.

Dan Elliott **Getting in Line** 9 Article

A complete discussion on using the Line method of Reports to create a report that looks like it has been produced on a word processor.

Karen Watterson **Do You Speak English? ELF Does** 12 Review

Karen reviews a shareware tool for creating natural language front ends for Access.

Karen Watterson **Karen Queries Jon** 14 Sidebar

Karen Watterson interviews Jon Greenblatt, the author of ELF

Chris Bell **The Return of Access Answers** 16 Article

Chris answers a slew of questions including: redefining the up and down arrow keys in subforms; accessing another Access database without having to reference it; and taking control of the Debug window.

D. P. Saville **Are You Deviant** 20 Smart Tip

David provides a function for calculating standard deviation.

Christopher R. Weber **Bug Alert** 20 Smart Tip

A warning about using "Application" as a field name in Access 97.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for October 1997 Issue** 23 Access World News

An overview of some of the neat tools available on Microsoft's Access website.

Armen Stein **Associate Labels** 23 Smart Tip

A followup to Helen Feddema's article on mimicking hyperlinks, this tip shows how to associate a label with a button.

Darius Lamanauskas **Like, You Know** 24 Smart Tip

A function that can be used to determine if a criteria clause requires a 'Like' operator.

1997-09 Bronze Collection

Michael Corning **The Future of Data Access** 1 Article

An introduction to Microsoft's OLE DB and it's impact on data access.

Steve Sarre **Tip: Easily Display Properties** 5 Smart Tip

A format for a routine to be called from the immediate window during debugging to display all of the properties for an object.

Michael Corning **Active Data Objects** 6 Article

A discussion of how Active Data Objects, the first interface to OLE DB available to VBA programmer's works.

Paul Litwin **Blast off with ODBCDirect** 10 Article

Paul outlines what ODBCDirect is, how it works, and what the benefits of using it are.

Mary Chipman **Updating RDO** 15 Article

Mary and Mike bring readers up to date on the latest version of RDO.

Peter Vogel **Which to Choose** 20 Article

Peter summarizes this issue's review of ADO, RDO, and ODBCDirect in terms of which data access method you should use. The article also gives a brief look at Data Source Objects (DSO).

Steve Clark **Tip: Don't End Any Field Name with 'Desc'** 22 Smart Tip

A note about a bug in Access 95 that occurs when sorting on fields whose names end in the letters 'desc'.

Dana Ferguson **Tip: Getting the Math Right** 23 Smart Tip

A comment on an earlier article on handling floating point results that are calculated incorrectly in Access. A problem with the FMS statistics package is pointed out and a simple work around for these problems suggested.

Steve Sarre **Tip: Controlling the Time** 23 Smart Tip

Some validation rules that allow the user to enter a free form date but prevent them from entering the time.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for September 1997 Issue** 24 Access World News

A discussion of ELF 97 and Vision Builder 3. ELF 97 is the latest version of an natural language front end for Access. Vision Builder is a CASE tool that generates Visual Basic programs and SQL triggers based on business rules (Vision Builder uses Access as its repository).

1997-08 Bronze Collection

Paul Litwin **Publishing Active Server Pages** 1 Article

Paul discusses integrating Access with Active Server Pages (ASP), Microsoft's tool for creating browser-neutral content on the server. Paul introduces the tool and outlines how to create data driven tables either by hand, using the Wizard in Access, or using Visual InterDev's data forms

Peter Vogel **Editorial for August 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

Peter discusses being in denial about new technology, his current struggle with Java, and some predictions about the impact Java will have on Microsoft development tools.

Helen Feddema **Using Outlook as a Front End for Access Data** 10 Article

Helen explains how to link Outlook forms to Access data, describing the differences between development in Access and Outlook. The accompanying files include an Outlook utility for changing an Outlook form's message class.

Ken Getz **The In Crowd** 15 Smart Tip

How to create a SQL statement from a multi-select ListBox.

Christopher R. Weber **Seek and Ye Shall Find** 16 Article

Chris's article describes the differences between Seek, Find, and the domain methods (DLookup, etc.) and determines which is faster.

Christopher R. Weber **A Testing Database** 17 Sidebar

Chris outlines why he created a database to run performance tests and describes how it works. The database generates successively larger tables and runs a set of tests on them, storing the results in a table for analysis.

Helen Feddema **Simulated Hyperlinks** 20 Smart Tip

How to make your labels look like HTML Hyperlinks

Peter Vogel **SubQueries to the Rescue** 22 Article

In the last of the Working SQL series, Peter discusses SubQueries: how they work, why you'd want to use them.

Steve Sarre **Mixing Validation Rules** 23 Smart Tip

Steve shows some techniques for using functions in the validation rule property to enforce data integrity.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for August 1997 Issue** 24 Access World News

A look at two tools that work with Access: InfoModeler late from Asymetrix and now from Informodelers, and Vision Builder from Vision Software. InfoModeler uses a powerful data modeling technique to create Access databases and communicate design issues to clients. Vision Builder uses Access as a repository for design information (data models, business rules, and program structure) to generate VB client/server applications from business rules.

1997-07 Bronze Collection

Mike Gilbert **Using Source Code Control with Access 97** 1 Article

Microsoft has added built-in support for source code control to Access 97. Mike explains how this works in Access 97, and how to go about using this exciting new feature with Access 97, the ODE, and Visual SourceSafe.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for July 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

Let me introduce myself. Peter introduces himself.

Jeff Kryzer **Wrap API Calls So They'll Work in All Versions of Access** 9 Smart Tip

When I wrote a database which needed to exist in versions 2.0, 95, and 97, I wrote it to the least common denominator (that being Access 2.0). In order to reduce bugs and ease the conversion from Access 2.0 to 95 and 97, I write my functions a certain way if that function uses API calls. The function first checks the version of Access, then calls a different function depending on which version is being used.

Steve Sarre **Don't Forget to Intercept These Keystrokes** 9 Smart Tip

You can set up an AutoKeys macro to perform an Access action or execute a custom function. The Access on-line help shows the large number of keyboard shortcuts that are available. You may wish to intercept or handle some of these by masking with an AutoKeys entry.

Peter Vogel **Working SQL: Distinctive SQL** 10 Article

Nobody's version of SQL adheres completely to the ANSI standard, and Access's version is no exception. Peter take's a look at the most obvious addition. Once Peter gets started, though, he ends up walking through some index minefields.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for July 1997 Issue** 14 Access World News

Sybex's VBA Developer's Handbook by Ken Getz and Mike Gilbert; FMS Inc's Total Access Components 8.0; Microsoft's new online membership version of MSDN

Mary Chipman **Filling Team Manager Gaps with Access Reports** 15 Article

The Office-compatible product Team Manager provides an attractive new interface for project management, but its first version has a few rough edges. Notably missing from the product is any way of customizing reports. Fortunately, Team Manager is an ActiveX Automation server. In this article, Mike and Mary retrieve Team Manager data and use it to create custom reports.

Ken Getz **Using an Undocumented Object, Removing the Most Recently Used File List, and Other Topics** 20 Access Answers

This month, Ken takes on four questions culled from msnews. Microsoft.com (Microsoft's support news groups on the Internet). First, he digs into the undocumented _AccessProperty object. Then, he takes on a challenge: removing the most recently used file list from the File menu in Access 97. Next, he shows how to retrieve just the path of the current database, and finally, how to highlight a single control on a continuous form.

Paul Litwin **The Built-in Proper Case Function** 23 Smart Tip

Microsoft introduced an odd new function called StrConv in the version of VBA that ships with Access 95. This function has some interesting but not commonly used functionality such as converting strings from ANSI to Unicode (and back) and from one type of Far East character system to another. In addition, StrConv includes the ability to change a string to all upper case, all lower case, or proper case.

Paul Litwin **Use StrComp to Make Case-Sensitive Comparisons** 24 Smart Tip

Have you ever had the need to make case-sensitive comparisons? In the past when I've had to make case-sensitive comparisons, I've created a comparison function and placed it in a module that contained an Option Compare Binary statement in its declarations section. While there's still nothing wrong with this approach, a smarter approach is to use the largely unknown built-in StrComp function.

1997-06 Bronze Collection

Paul Litwin **Create Table-Driven Mail Merges Using Automation** 1 Article

Writing and rewriting the same old Automation code for different merge documents can be tedious and inefficient. Paul demonstrates how to use a table-driven process to simplify the creation of this type of Access application.

Paul Litwin **Paul Litwin Steps Down as Editor** 2 Editorial

Paul is stepping down as editor and Peter Vogel will be taking over as the new editor.

Robert Snyder **A Little Detective Work Finds the Culprit for Lengthening Database Close Times** 9 Smart Tip

I was running Access 97 on a P166 with 64MB RAM and a 2GB EIDE hard disk with more 50% free space. Performance, however, was dragging badly. In fact, that every day it seemed to take a little bit longer to close an Access 97 database, until one point it was taking up to 16 seconds to close any database even a newly created one...

Peter Vogel **All Things Not Being Equal** 10 Article

You aren't limited to joining tables only when two fields are equal. In the third of an ongoing series of articles on SQL, Peter shares some techniques to exploit more powerful options when linking tables in queries.

Gene Harris **Windows, Access 2.0 and C++: Programming Techniques for Serious Development** 12 Article

You can add custom behaviors to Microsoft Access using tools available to most Access software developers. Gene illustrates a method for permanently hiding the database container window during the execution of an Access program using a DLL developed using C++.

Helen Feddema **Floating an Access Form Over Outlook** 17 Smart Tip

Outlook has lots of great functionality as a PIM, but its form designer is--to say the least--limited compared to Access...It occurred to me that what I really wanted was a nice Access pop-up form floating over my Outlook form.

Gene Harris **Caution: Remove DBCWndProc Before Shutting Down Access** 17 Sidebar

Sidebar to "Windows, Access 2.0 and C++: Programming Techniques for Serious Development".

Mary Chipman **Linking and Relinking Secured Tables** 18 Article

In the June 1995 issue of Smart Access, Chris Bell covered the security issues relating to attached tables in Access 2.0. The basic security model in Access/Jet remains essentially unchanged in Access 95/97, but there have been a few minor changes and bug fixes that Mary thinks you should be aware of.

Mary Chipman **Queries and Linked Tables** 19 Article

Sidebar to "Linking and Relinking Secured Tables".

Ken Getz **Closing all Open Forms and Handling Misleading Report Errors** 20 Access Answers

Ken recently taught an Access 97 training class, and got a few interesting questions from the experience. The two questions answered here are the direct outcome of that class.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for June 1997 Issue** 24 Access World News

This months Access World News shares with you the most exciting information coming out of Microsoft's Tech*Ed conference held in Orlando in May: Memphis (Microsoft's follow-up to Windows 95), and Windows NT 5.0; Internet Explorer 4.0; Dynamic HTML

1997-05 Bronze Collection

David Shank **Programming Access 97's Command Bars** 1 Article

In the April issue of Smart Access, David showed us how to convert existing custom menus and toolbars into command bars and how to create custom command bars using the Access UI. In this article, David introduces us to the CommandBar object model and shows us how to program these new Office 97 objects.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for May 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

Titled in Defence of Microsoft and VBA. Discussion of Microsoft and VBA programming versus Sun/Netscape/Oracle and Java.

David Shank **References, References** 3 Sidebar

Sidebar to "Programming Access 97's Command Bars". If you encounter a compile error "User-defined type not defined" while attempting to run the code in this article, this is most likely because you didn't set a reference to the Office 97 type library.

Andy Baron **Avoid Rounding Errors by Using the Decimal Data Type** 7 Article

Working with floating-point numbers frequently causes headaches for developers. In this article, Andy and Mary explain the new Decimal data type and how you can use it to avoid precision errors in floating-point computations.

Mary Chipman **Avoid Rounding Errors by Using the Decimal Data Type** 7 Article

Working with floating-point numbers frequently causes headaches for developers. In this article, Andy and Mary explain the new Decimal data type and how you can use it to avoid precision errors in floating-point computations.

Peter Vogel **Working SQL: SQL Without Joins** 9 Article

If you always join tables you put in a query, then you aren't taking advantage of one of the fundamental features of SQL. Not only that, Peter writes, but you're also missing an opportunity to see how SQL really works.

Karen Watterson **Do Natural Language Queries Work?** 10 Review

Let's be honest---writing SQL queries is neither fun nor intuitive. For years, universities have been doing "natural language" research (and Microsoft continues the investigation today). In her review of English Wizard, however, Karen tells us that this isn't blue sky stuff-you can do natural language database querying today.

Paul Litwin **Code Like the Experts: Make Your Apps Reusable and Easily Maintained** 13 Article

Do you find yourself constantly reinventing the wheel as you develop applications? Or perhaps you've looked horrified when you revisited some code that you wrote a year ago? Paul presents an assortment of ideas on how to improve your development style and create applications (and application components) that are both easy to maintain and reusable.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for May 1997 Issue** 19 Access World News

Black Moshannon Systems' SPEED Ferret for Access 97; Advanced Software Development Corporation's U.A. Corporate Accounting

Ken Getz **Shuffling Lists of Numbers, Ranking, and Control-Level Validation** 20 Article

This month Ken takes on three issues: shuffling values to provide a random list of numbers without repeats, ranking rows in a query, and providing control-level validation on a form. Look for code in Access 2 format (all of this month's solutions work in Access 2--32-bit users can convert the 16-bit version for use in their own environment). The demonstration database is QA970516.MDB.

1997-04 Bronze Collection

Ken Getz **Use Network Resources in VBA** 1 Article

In the September 1995 issue of Smart Access, Michael wrote up many 16-bit network-handling API functions for Access 2. It's been a while, and many readers have upgraded to Access 95 or 97. Because these products require 32-bit API calls, the code in the original article won't work. This article revisits some of the same topics, and introduces others, and it's geared exclusively for 32-bit applications. If you're using any Office 95 or Office 97 application, or if you're working with a 32-bit version of Visual Basic, you'll find the techniques in this article useful for handling your network needs.

Michael Kaplan **Use Network Resources in VBA** 1 Article

In the September 1995 issue of Smart Access, Michael wrote up many 16-bit network-handling API functions for Access 2. It's been a while, and many readers have upgraded to Access 95 or 97. Because these products require 32-bit API calls, the code in the original article won't work. This article revisits some of the same topics, and introduces others, and it's geared exclusively for 32-bit applications. If you're using any Office 95 or Office 97 application, or if you're working with a 32-bit version of Visual Basic, you'll find the techniques in this article useful for handling your network needs.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for April 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

Paul discusses the Microsoft Web Browser Control.

Tyler Coplen **Get Rid of Those SendKeys Commands** 7 Smart Tip

After converting an Access 2 application to Access 97, I noticed that the NumLock key was often toggled. This irritating behavior was tracked down to the use of the SendKeys commands in my code...

Paul Litwin **Get Rid of Those SendKeys Commands** 7 Smart Tip

After converting an Access 2 application to Access 97, I noticed that the NumLock key was often toggled. This irritating behavior was tracked down to the use of the SendKeys commands in my code...

Richard Knudson **Making Sense of Access 97's Command Bars** 8 Article

In Access 97 all menus, toolbars, and shortcut menus are variations of the new CommandBar object. In this first installment of a two-part series on command bars, David presents an overview of command bars and discusses some of the things to watch for when converting menu bar macros to Access 97 command bars. Next month, David will discuss the programmability aspects of command bars.

David Shank **Making Sense of Access 97's Command Bars** 8 Article

In Access 97 all menus, toolbars, and shortcut menus are variations of the new CommandBar object. In this first installment of a two-part series on command bars, David presents an overview of command bars and discusses some of the things to watch for when converting menu bar macros to Access 97 command bars. Next month, David will discuss the programmability aspects of command bars.

David Shank **The New Menu Bar Wizard** 9 Sidebar

Side bar for "Making Sense of Access 97's Command Bars".

Peter Vogel **Working SQL: Creating Objects Using Code: Is DAO or SQL Better?** 11 Article

SQL may be much more useful to you than you think. In this first of a series on articles on SQL, Peter introduces SQL and compares it to DAO for ease of use and performance. He also includes a utility to transfer table designs between any SQL databases.

Mike Gunderloy **Garbage In, Garbage Out: Validating User Input** 15 Article

A database is only as good as the data that it contains. The best way to make sure only good data gets saved is to check it as the user is typing. In this article, Mike explores some strategies for validating user input.

Konrad Geiger **Internationalize Your Where Clause Arguments** 19 Smart Tip

Have you experienced any problems with passing arguments to SQL Where clauses? I've noticed that problems can occur if the date format uses non-U.S. settings (other than MDY) in the International (Regional Settings in Windows 95) control panel settings, or if the date separator isn't set to a slash. Similarly, numeric arguments cause errors if the decimal separator is set to a comma instead of a period. In addition, even for U.S. English installations, string arguments can cause problems if they contain apostrophe or quotation marks, or worse both.

Dan Haught **Internationalize Your Where Clause Arguments** 19 Smart Tip

Have you experienced any problems with passing arguments to SQL Where clauses? I've noticed that problems can occur if the date format uses non-U.S. settings (other than MDY) in the International (Regional Settings in Windows 95) control panel settings, or if the date separator isn't set to a slash. Similarly, numeric arguments cause errors if the decimal separator is set to a comma instead of a period. In addition, even for U.S. English installations, string arguments can cause problems if they contain apostrophe or quotation marks, or worse both.

John Von Colditz **Internationalize Your Where Clause Arguments** 19 Smart Tip

Have you experienced any problems with passing arguments to SQL Where clauses? I've noticed that problems can occur if the date format uses non-U.S. settings (other than MDY) in the International (Regional Settings in Windows 95) control panel settings, or if the date separator isn't set to a slash. Similarly, numeric arguments cause errors if the decimal separator is set to a comma instead of a period. In addition, even for U.S. English installations, string arguments can cause problems if they contain apostrophe or quotation marks, or worse both.

Ken Getz **Fast Filename Parsing** 21 Smart Tip

If you have a full file name (including the path) that represents an actual file, you often need to parse out just the filename portion.

Carl Salter **Prevent Exclusive Access** 21 Smart Tip

When I create non-secured multi-user applications, I am constantly running into the problem of new users locking out others when they initially sign onto the system. (With secured applications, you can adjust user permissions to disable exclusive access.) Many of our clients will acquire Access only when they need to access a new business application. These clients then sign on to the system using a desktop icon with an AutoExec macro for the application. If the client's default multi-user open mode for Access is exclusive, however, they end up signing on to the system and locking out others who attempt to sign on later.

Ken Getz **Choosing Directories: It's Harder Than It Sounds** 24 Access Answers

This month, Ken takes on but one question: allowing a user to choose a directory from a list of directories. He supplies the answer for both Access 2 and in Access 95/97. The 16-bit demonstration database is QA970416.MDB, and the 32-bit version is QA970432.MDB. The 32-bit database is in Access 95 format, but can easily be converted for Access 97.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for April 1997 Issue** 24 Access World News

Microsoft Internet Explorer Bug Fix; FMS Inc.'s Total Access SourceBook version 8.0; VideoSoft's VSREPORTS

1997-03 Bronze Collection

Jim Ferguson **Use Classes to Enhance Access 97's List and Combo Boxes** 1 Article

Access 97's new support for standard class modules lets you greatly extend the functionality of standard controls. In this article, Jim shows you how to make Access's unbound list and combo boxes behave more like those in Visual Basic by adding a few new methods and properties via a standard class module.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for March 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

Discussion of class modules entitled "Start Programming With Class".

Peter Vogel **Use Access as a Data Warehouse** 9 Article

By exploiting most of the features of Access, SQL, and a lot of DAO, Peter's company, Champion Road Machinery, was able to support end user reporting by developing a home-grown data warehouse driven from an Access data dictionary.

F. Scott Barker **Create a Reusable Wizard-like Interface for Printing Reports** 13 Article

Many reports can benefit from a wizard-like interface for selecting groups to be printed. In this article, Scott demonstrates how to use a single form to create a common interface for printing reports.

Ken Getz **Numeric Overflows, Highlights on Continuous Forms, and Disappearing Ampersands** 18 Access Answers

Ken recently received a letter from Bob Martin of Icon Computer Publishing in NSW, Australia. Bob asked a number of questions in his letter, and Ken's going to devote this month's column to Bob's shopping list. Look for code in both Access 2 and in Access 95/97 format. The 16-bit sample database (which you can download from the Subscriber Downloads area at www.pinpub.com/access is QA970316.MDB, and the 32-bit version is QA970332.MDB. The 32-bit database is in Access 95 format, but can easily be converted for Access 97.

Paul Litwin **When You Don't Care if It's Null or a Zero-Length String** 22 Article

Even though Access considers them separate values, often developers wish to treat Nulls and zero-length strings (ZLS) as equivalent for the sake of an If...Then statement or some other stretch of code.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for March 1997 Issue** 23 Access World News

Discussion of places on the Internet that offer Access information or help; Aditi Corp's UpDown upsizing tool; Repetitive Strain Injury: A Computer User's Guide; and Cary Prague Books and Software's TabMasterPro Wizard.

1997-02 Bronze Collection

Luke Chung **When Access Math Doesn't Add Up** 1 Article

All versions of Access share several quirks that can result in inaccurate mathematical calculations in both code and queries. Understanding these quirks will help you avoid unnecessary headaches when the numbers you generate don't match the mathematically correct values.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for February 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

The More Things Change...: discussion of articles in this issue.

David Shank **Expand Your Outlook with Access 97** 5 Article

Microsoft Office 97 includes a new desktop information manger called Outlook. Using VBA, you can now incorporate Outlook contacts, scheduling, mail, tasks, and to-do lists into your Access 97 applications. This article presents a brief overview of the Outlook object model and demonstrates how to incorporate Outlook objects in your Access applications.

Stu Alderman **Managing Discontinued Data** 11 Article

Relational databases are well enabled to support the entry of accurate normalized data. Unfortunately, there are few capabilities in relational databases to assist in removing data as it becomes obsolete. In this article, Stu discussed how to manage data through the removal process.

Karen Clark **Summarizing Data on a Report: When Crosstab Queries Aren't Enough** 13 Article

A typical report based on a crosstab query displays row headings down the left side of the report and column headings across the top, with only one calculated value at each row and column intersection (such as sales for each customer for each month). Michael and Karen demonstrate how to create a spreadsheet-like report, for data that needs to be summarized over some time interval, with sub-headings for the columns, which allow you to have more than one value summarized for each row and column intersection (such as sales, payments, and discounts for each customer for each month).

Michael Keller **Summarizing Data on a Report: When Crosstab Queries Aren't Enough** 13 Article

A typical report based on a crosstab query displays row headings down the left side of the report and column headings across the top, with only one calculated value at each row and column intersection (such as sales for each customer for each month). Michael and Karen demonstrate how to create a spreadsheet-like report, for data that needs to be summarized over some time interval, with sub-headings for the columns, which allow you to have more than one value summarized for each row and column intersection (such as sales, payments, and discounts for each customer for each month).

Ken Getz **Sorting Arrays of Strings** 17 Access Answers

This month, Ken goes digs in deep on one question: sorting an array of strings. He supplies answers in both Access 2 and in Access 95/97 (though they may be different answers). The 16-bit demonstration database is QA970216.MDB, and the 32-bit version is QA970232.MDB. The 32-bit database is in Access 95 format, but can easily be converted to Access 97.

Helen Feddema **Easy Backup of Database Objects** 22 Smart Tip

Here is a macro to put into your AutoKeys macro group that lets you easily create multiple copies of a database object, so you can go back to a former version after making changes to an object.

H. Stephen Reinheimer **Preload Objects for Easy Debugging** 22 Smart Tip

I debug Access Basic and VBA code daily. Access does not provide a complete debugging environment. Often, I want to view tabledef, querydef, form, or security information. It is not easy to view this information unless I am in the middle of a function or procedure. Recently, I discovered a solution to this dilemma.

Paul Litwin **Using Optional Parameters** 23 Smart Tip

Access 95 added support for optional parameters using the Optional keyword. Discussion of how to use them in Access 95 and Access 97.

Total Access Components from FMS, Inc. and Contacts Unlimited from Access to Business.

1997-01 Bronze Collection

Ken Lassesen **Visual Basic Script and the Access Developer** 1 Article

Visual Basic Script (VBS) is a subset of Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) designed for use in Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML) files on the Internet and intranets. The commands available in VBS are generally identical to the commands in VBA. Ken explains some fundamentals of the philosophy behind the design of VBS, how its arrival may impact Access developers, and provides examples of using DAO and Access in HTML files. VBS is installed with Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.0.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for January 1997 Issue** 2 Editorial

With the recent flurry of Access 97 articles and editorials, you may be wondering what it takes to make the move to Access 97?

Rick Dobson **Create White and Yellow Page Directory Reports with Ease** 6 Article

The production of white and yellow page directory reports presents several interesting challenges. Rick discusses the techniques he learned while creating directory reports for a recent client.

F. Scott Barker **Create Your Own Query By Form** 10 Article

Using the new Filter By Selection and Filter By Form features built into Access 95 forms, you can now give the user a method for querying their data that's a lot more user friendly than Access 2.0. However, there are a number of cases where you'll want to have more control over what your user has the ability to set criteria for, as well as the method used for displaying the data after the recordset has been queried. Scott presents several examples of creating a Query By Form interface that you can control using DAO.

Dana Comolli **Create Your Own Query By Form** 10 Article

Using the new Filter By Selection and Filter By Form features built into Access 95 forms, you can now give the user a method for querying their data that's a lot more user friendly than Access 2.0. However, there are a number of cases where you'll want to have more control over what your user has the ability to set criteria for, as well as the method used for displaying the data after the recordset has been queried. Scott presents several examples of creating a Query By Form interface that you can control using DAO.

Paul Litwin **Comment on the Why, Not the How!** 13 Smart Tip

When you create comments in your code, it's better to document why you've done something a certain way than to document how you did it.

Paul Litwin **Synchronize Over the Internet with Access 97** 14 Article

Microsoft has added support for Internet-based synchronization to Access 97. In this article, Paul explains how to set up your Internet server for this exciting new form of synchronization and how to synchronize your replicas over the Internet or your corporate intranet.

Helen Feddema **Drag 'n' Drop Editing in the Module Window** 18 Smart Tip

In Access 97, you can highlight a text selection in the module window and drag it to a new location, just like in Word--there's no longer any need to cut and paste using the clipboard!

Ken Getz **How to Convert Case and Calculate Total Time** 19 Access Answers

This month, Ken digs in on two questions: creating a "smart" proper case conversion function and calculating total elapsed time, given a series of time values. He supplies answers (though they may be different answers) in both Access 2.0 and in Access 95/97 (the 32-bit database is in Access 95 format, but can easily be converted for Access 97). The 16-bit demonstration database is QA970116.MDB, and the 32-bit version is QA970132.MDB.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for January 1997 Issue** 23 Access World News

Linguistic Technology's English Wizard, Romy-Tek's Visual Bridge, and Bunker Hill Software's Scriptoria.

1996-12 Bronze Collection

Michael Kaplan **Partial Replication with Jet 3.5** 1 Article

Partial Replication, one of the most heavily requested enhancements to Microsoft Jet replication, is now fully supported by Jet 3.5. However, even with a wizard from Microsoft it can still be hard to properly implement. Lynn and Michael discuss the basics of creating, populating, and using partial replicas in Microsoft Access applications.

Lynn Shanklin **Partial Replication with Jet 3.5** 1 Article

Partial Replication, one of the most heavily requested enhancements to Microsoft Jet replication, is now fully supported by Jet 3.5. However, even with a wizard from Microsoft it can still be hard to properly implement. Lynn and Michael discuss the basics of creating, populating, and using partial replicas in Microsoft Access applications.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for December 1996 Issue** 2 Editorial

Will we ever be able to move beyond the aging Access 2.0? Until recently, I wasn't so sure of the answer, but after working with various pre-release versions of Access 97 for several months now, I'm convinced that Access 97 will be a big seller.

Mary Chipman **Module Objects in Access 97** 8 Article

Beginning with the introduction of Wizards in Access 1.0, Access has been a pioneer of application extensibility. Access 97 adds significant new capabilities in this area by providing an object model for the source code of your applications. In this article, Mike and Mary explore this new facet of the Access object model and demonstrate a sample application that uses some of its capabilities.

Ken Getz **Office 97's FileSearch Object: Find Files in a Flash** 11 Article

Access 97 introduces a number of new objects, some internal and some borrowed from Office 97. In this article, Ken discusses the simplest of the new shared Office programmability features, the FileSearch object. In future articles, he'll introduce more shared components--the Office Assistant and CommandBars.

Paul Litwin **Disable the F11 Function Key** 15 Smart Tip

How to disable the ability of users to escape to the database container window across all versions of Access.

Mike Gilbert **Hyperlink with Access 97** 16 Article

Internet features abound in the latest release of Microsoft's flagship consumer product, Microsoft Office. Contributing editor Mike Gilbert takes a look at a piece of the Access Internet puzzle: hyperlinks.

Ken Getz **Setting and Retrieving Application Parameters and Checking Disk Space** 20 Access Answers

This month, Ken goes head-to-head with two questions: how to set and retrieve application parameters and how to retrieve the amount of free disk space. He supplies answers (though they may be different answers) in both Access 2.0 and Access 95. The 16-bit demonstration database is QA961216.MDB, and the 32-bit version is QA961232.MDB.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for December 1996 Issue** 24 Access World News

Access Monitor Release 7.0 from Creative Sales & Marketing Associates and James E Smith IV Consulting; Total Access Sourcebook from FMS

1996-11 Bronze Collection

Michael Kaplan **Publish on the Web with Access 97** 1 Article

In this preview of Access 97, the authors explore the new Publish to the Web wizard, which makes it easy to integrate database applications with the Internet or an intranet. Using the new wizard, you can publish the data in a table, query, form, or report to a new Web page in a matter of minutes.

Tamra Myers **Publish on the Web with Access 97** 1 Article

In this preview of Access 97, the authors explore the new Publish to the Web wizard, which makes it easy to integrate database applications with the Internet or an intranet. Using the new wizard, you can publish the data in a table, query, form, or report to a new Web page in a matter of minutes.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for November 1996 Issue** 2 Editorial

More news on Access 97.

Peter Vogel **It's in the Mail** 7 Article

Using e-mail from within Access can solve a lot of problems quickly and easily. Peter shows you how, with techniques that work with everything from Access 2.0 macros to the Mail API and the MAPI OCX in Access 95.

Karen Watterson **Upsize Your MDB to SQL Server the Smart Way** 12 Review

If you've written an Access or VB app that uses an MDB database, there's a good chance you'll eventually want to move that database to SQL Server. Whether you're an Access or VB developer or a SQL Server DBA, you may as well prepare yourself for the inevitable. In this article, I'll outline a handful of alternatives for upsizing, but focus on two popular alternatives: the Access Upsizing Tools and Bunker Hill Software's Scriptoria Tool Suite.

H. Stephen Reinheimer **Make Managing Help Text a Snap** 16 Article

Access provides no way to maintain user assistance text across your application. New author Stephen Reinheimer has created a utility to assist you in managing help information in your Access forms. You can add or modify forms' context-sensitive IDs and status bar text for both Access 2.0 and Access 95. In addition, you can also use the utility with Access 95 to manage control tip text.

Ken Getz **Minimizing Access, Handling Leap Years, and Disabling System Keystrokes** 21 Access Answers

This month, Ken goes head-to-head with three questions: minimizing Access when minimizing the application form, determining if a given year is a leap year, and disabling system keystrokes. The first two examples work equally well in Access 2 and Access 95; the third works only in Access 95. The 16-bit demonstration database is QA961116.MDB, and the 32-bit version is QA961132.MDB.

Steve White **Enclose CanShrink/CanGrow Text Boxes in a Rectangle** 23 Smart Tip

I often enclose one or more text boxes or labels in a report inside a rectangle. However, this isn't so simple if you have text boxes that grow and shrink according to the text they contain.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for November 1996 Issue** 24 Access World News

Total Access Memo from FMS, Inc, and TabMaster Plus Wizard from Cary Prague books and Software.

1996-10 Bronze Collection

Richard Knudson **Web-Enabled Apps with the Internet Database Connector** 1 Article

One of the best applications of Internet technology is the ability to make your databases available to anybody with a web browser. Richard shows you how to do this with Access databases using Microsoft's Internet Database Connector, which is part of the Internet Information Server.

Paul Litwin **Editorial for October 1996 Issue** 2 Editorial

A Change of Heart: Paul embraces the Internet with enthusiasm as he discusses this month's articles.

Richard Knudson **Microsoft's Internet Strategy Update** 6 Sidebar

Sidebar to "Web-Enabled Apps with the Internet Database Connector". Discusses Microsoft's Internet strategy.

Helen Feddema **Use the New With Construct to Streamline Your Code** 8 Smart Tip

Access 95 introduced the VBA With...End With construct, which lets you simplify repeated references to an object.

Mike Gilbert **Developing Applications in a Dual Platform World** 9 Article

Are you faced with developing and supporting applications written in both Access 2.0 and Access 95? If so, you're not alone. Many organizations are moving very slowly to Windows 95 or Windows NT, making it difficult to introduce new, 32-bit applications. In this article Mike provides some useful advice, tips, and tools to make developing applications in both environments a bit easier.

Alan Biggs **Update and Append Records with One Query** 13 Smart Tip

Did you know that you could use an update query in Access to both update and add records at the same time?

Steve White **Synchronize Databases using Access 2.0 or 95** 14 Article

Access 95 includes built-in support for replication, but Access 2.0 lacks these capabilities. Steve has created a mechanism for synchronizing changes and additions to data in one database with a remote database containing the same table set that will work in both versions of Access. Inserts, Updates and Deletes are propagated from one system to another using text export files that can be transferred by floppy disks or simple file transfers.

Ken Getz **Several Secrets of Good Form** 19 Access Answers

This month, Ken takes on four: working with multi-paged forms, creating command buttons with both images and text, and animating controls on forms. All examples work equally well in Access 2 and in Access 95 -- the 16-bit demonstration database is QA961016.MDB, and the 32-bit version is QA961032.MDB.

Helen Feddema **Building Criteria the Easy Way** 23 Smart Tip

If you've ever struggled to remember the cryptic syntax for dates so you could create an expression for a form's Filter property or a SQL statement, you'll love the BuildCriteria method, which was introduced in Access 95.

Michael Kaplan **Is Your Application Already Running?** 23 Smart Tip

At times you may need to keep users from opening more than one copy of your application.

Ken Getz **Roll the Credits!** 24 Smart Tip

Although Access 95 has been out for almost a year, Microsoft has been very circumspect about releasing the steps necessary to find the product's "Easter Egg" the credits screen that you'll find in most Microsoft products. Here it is, as well as the Access 2 Easter Egg too.

Paul Litwin **Access World News for October 1996 Issue** 24 Access World News

Softbite International's training classes; Sybex's Access and SQL Server Developer's Handbook by Viescas, Gunderloy, and Chipman; Aufrance Associates's Survey Internet; Azalea Software's carrick.